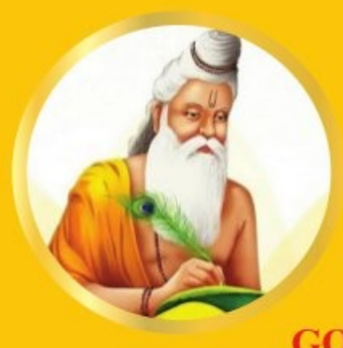
THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS
BENGALURU • SUNDAY • OCTOBER 9, 2022 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 26 • LATE CITY EDITION

FIRE & FURY

A C-130J aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) takes part in the 90th anniversary celebrations of IAF at the Sukhna Lake in Chandigarh on Saturday | PTI

SHRI NARENDRA MODI
Hon'ble Prime Minister



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Social Welfare Department & Tribal Welfare Department

SHRI BASAVARAJ BOMMAI
Hon'ble Chief Minister

HISTORICAL DECISION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Reservation for Scheduled Castes (SC) has been increased from 15% to 17%.
Reservation for Scheduled Tribes (ST) has been increased from 3% to 7%.

•Implementation of Justice H. N. Nagamohan Das's Committee Report.
•Upholding Social Justice as promised by the Government of Karnataka.

Government of Karnataka working for the development of SC-ST communities

- Rs. 28,234 crore allotted for SCSP/TSP schemes.
- For projects of development corporations under the Social Welfare and Tribal Welfare Department, a grant of Rs. 580.19 crores was sanctioned in the budget. An additional grant of Rs. 410 crores is also sanctioned. The total amount is 990.19 crore.
- 75 units of free electricity for below-poverty-line SC/STs.
- A grant of Rs. 750 crores sanctioned to the Public Works Department, (earmarked under the SCSP/TSP scheme) to be utilized for the construction of 100 Dr B.R. Ambedkar hostels and 10 KREIS (Residential Schools) buildings.
- The unit cost under the land acquisition scheme aimed at providing land to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been increased to Rs. 20 lakhs.
- The assistance given to Scheduled Castes and Tribes under Self Employment Scheme increased to one lakh rupees. Under this scheme named after Babu Jagjeevanram, a target of assisting 100 people for each assembly constituency has been set.
- The housing subsidy for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes increased to Rs. 2 lakhs.

SHRI B. SRIRAMULU
Minister for Tribal Welfare

SHRI KOTA SRINIVAS POOJARI
Minister for Social Welfare and Backward Classes

Social Welfare Department & Tribal Welfare Department 24/7 Helpline- 9482300400 @SWDGOK

HOUSE FOR SALE

Two houses are available for sale at Vishunanandham Galaxy in Bagalur Road, Hosur

(1) Land area : 1500 sq.ft, Builtup area - 6000 sq.ft, 4 Floors, (Can be used for office and hostel facilities)

(2) Land area : 1500 sq.ft, Builtup area - 2200 sq.ft, 3 Floors, Facing west for residential purposes.

* British person designed * Gated community
* Distance Hosur bus stand To Bangalore (35) km
* 24 hour water/ Bore pump, garden facility

Contact : +91-9080802630, 7010289448

IN THE COURT OF 11th ADDL.CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE
P & SC. No.616 / 2022 CCH - 8

Between:
1.**Smt. Nirmala Baskar,** Aged about 77 years W/o Shri Bakthavachalu Baskaran R/o: 1321 Shobha Dewflower, 4th Cross, Sarakki Main Road, JP Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore - 560078
2. **Kishore B Masurkar,** Aged about 62 years, S/o Balakram R Masukar, R/o: #218, 28th Cross, 7th Block, Behind Aiyappa Temple, Jayanagar Bangalore - 560082 ....**Petitioners**
And
NIL ....**Respondant**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the above named petitioners have made to this Court a petition under Section 222 and 276 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, for probate of will dated 02.06.2022 and consequential reliefs for immovable and movable assets belonging to the deceased Late Sunitha Baskaran who died 26 day June, 2022 owned by her during her lifetime. The interested parties are hereby warned to appear before the CCH8 XI ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE in person or by pleader duly interested on the **7 day of 12-2022, at 11.00AM,** inform to show cause against the petitioners failing which the matter will be heard and declared as exparte.

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS BELONGING TO LATE SUNITHA BASAKARAN
SCHEDULE OF THE ENTIRE LAND AND BUILDING

SCHEDULE 'A 'BTM PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel residential property PID No.65-53-17, #17, constructed on site formed by the Metropolitian Co- Operative Housing Society, at Madivala, BTM Extension, Bangalore, the residential House having built up area of 2600 Sq. Ft., built in the year 1988-89 with RCC Roof, mosaic flooring and steel windows on site measuring East to West 45 + 49/2 & North to South 80" , measuring in all 3760 Sq ft. bounded on: East by: Private Property, West by: Site # 16, North by: Road, South by : Park

SCHEDULE B {J P NAGAR} : All that piece and parcel of apartment bearing PID No.57-339-18/1-127, No. S-1-1321, 2nd Floor, in Block 4, with one car parking with a built up area of 1814.595 Sq.Ft built on property bearing No.64/1 Sarakki Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, No.18, 5th Cross, Gurumuhurthappa Compound, Shakhambari Nagar , Bangalore,

SCHEDULE -I: (The Property on which the Builiding Sobha Dew Flower is being constructed)
All that piece and parcel of conjoint residential converted land situated at Sarakki Village, Uttarahalli Hobli , Taluk, comprised in No.64/1, measuring 2 Acres 12 Guntas i.e. 9,318.59 sqm (out of 3 Acres, 15 Guntas, measuring 1 Acre 13 Guntas i.e., 5355.57 sq. mtrs, (out of 3 Acres, 13 Guntas), Survey No.64/2 measuring 416,486.37 sqm (out of 5 Acres 23 Guntas), totally measuring 31,160.63 sqm being part of composite property, No.18, 5th Cross, Gurumurthappa Compound, Shakambari Nagar , Bangalore and bounded as follows: On the East : Road and remaining property belonging to the Owners, West by: Remaining belonging to the Owners and Private property , North by: Private property remaining portion of the land belonging to the Owners, South : Private properties and remaining portion of the lands belonging to the Owners.
(An extent of 813.71 sqm towards Road widening, and 3,091.96 sqm towards the Parks and open spaces front Property has been relinquished to Bangalore Development Authority as per the conditions of the reqlinquishment deed registered as No.BNG(U)-JPN/3855/ 2009-10, dt: 3rd Nov 2009 in the office of the SRO Jayanagar, Bangalore and an extent of 1,545.96 sqm is earmarked and reserved for Civic Amenities site.)

SCHEDULE - II : (Property hereby agreed to be sold to the Purchaser): An undivided 0.34% share, right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' Property i.e., 930.79 sqaure feet.

SCHEDULE - III :(Description of the apartment agreed to be sold to the purchaser corresponding to the acquisition of Schedule 'B" Property) a 3 Bedroom Apartment bearing No. S1-1321, on the Second Floor, in Block - 4, in the Apartment Building 'Dew Flower' to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' Property with a built - up area of 1814.595 Sq. Ft proportionate share in common areas and one car parking space in the basement.

SCHEDULE C (Movables)

Bank	A/c No.	Amount (Rs.)
ICICI Bank	005301083112	82 Lacs
ICICI Bank	005301083111	Nil balance
Kotak Mahindra Bank	204010008768	30 Lacs
Kotak Mahindra Bank	204010009786	7 Lacs

Given under my hand and seal this **21.09.2022**
Advocate for Petitioners
V V Gunjal,
Ankita Patil,
No.9, Model House Street,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004.

By Order of the Court
Sd/-Assistant Registrar
City Civil Court, Bangalore

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No./ Due Date	Description	Qty. (Nos./Sets)	EMD (Rs.)
1.	12221387 03.11.2022	1.Supply of Bodyside Window Arrgt.	760 Nos.	1,96,930/-
		2.Supply of Emergency Openable Window	470 Nos.	
2.	17221167A 31.10.2022	Set of Spare Interior Fittings for LHB AC Economy Coaches	244 Sets	1,45,230/-
3.	17221249 31.10.2022	Seats for Executive Class AC Chair Car LHB Coach (56 Seater) for Tejas Rake	03 Sets	91,230/-
4.	12221369 31.10.2022	Water Tank Flap Arrgt. for MEMU/ PC 3-Phase MEDHA Coaches	489.00 Nos.	86,260/-
5.	14221125 01.11.2022	Stress Relieving, Shot Blasting, Painting and Machining & Transportation of Bogie Frame for IR-FIAT-Bogies	529 Nos.	9,73,780/-
6.	14221144 01.11.2022	Light Weight Body Filter	16514 Kgs	88,470/-
7.	14221119 02.11.2022	Fleet Graphics (02 Types)	848 Nos. 226 Nos.	20,00,000/-
8.	14221133 03.11.2022	Aluminium Chequred Sheet	30000 Kgs	2,27,980/-
9.	12221361 02.11.2022	1. Fixing arrangement of Rolling Shutter Assembly for 3-Phase MEMU/PC Coaches	413.00 Nos.	1,57,940/-
		2. Fixing arrangement of Rolling Shutter Assembly for 3-Phase MEMU/DMC Coaches	55 Nos.	
10.	01221237 03.11.2022	Security Disc.	7433 Nos.	NIL
11.	01221238 15.11.2022	Bearing	3447 Nos.	NIL
12.	01221240 03.11.2022	Rubber Spring Centring	5093 Nos.	66,710/-
13.	05221336 31.10.2022	Set of Roof Elements	2115 Sets	20,00,000/-
14.	02221276 15.11.2022	Capacitor Bank for LHB EOG Type Coaches	562 Nos.	2,85,820/-
15.	02221277 04.11.2022	End Fittings to PG11, 16, 21, 29, 36 & 48	24511 Nos.	1,91,920/-
16.	02221283 22.11.2022	Polymide Flexible Conduits PG11, 16, 21, 36 & 48	183232 Meter	4,49,750/-

1. For details and making on-line bids, visit website http://ireps.gov.in. Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF website http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in. Class IIIb digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at http://www.cce.gov.in. **2.** Tenders will close at 14.25 Hrs. on due date and tenders will be opened at 14.30 hrs. Tenders Sr. No. 1 to 09 will be opened at RCF Kapurthala and Sr. No. 10 to 16 will be opened at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi. **3.** For queries, contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23378658.
Note: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them. **PCMM**

CORRIGENDUM

Tenderers may please note the following changes in 1. Tender No. 02221211 due on 06.10.2022 for Set of Elect. Items for LHB SLRD Coaches. Due Date to be read as 17.10.2022 instead of 06.10.2022. **2.** Tender No. 14221067A due on 10.10.2022 : **i.** Quantity to be read as 615 Sets instead of 726 Sets. **ii.** EMD to be read as Rs. 3,12,060/- instead of Rs. 3,68,380/-. **iii.** Terms & Conditions : **(i)** Eligibility Criteria & Delivery Period has been revised. **(ii)** Specification & Set detail of item has been updated. **3.** Tender No. 12221164A due on 07.10.2022. Due Date to be read as 12.10.2022 instead of 07.10.2022. **All other terms & conditions will remain the same.** **PCMM**

Tender No. G-RCF/122/Stores/079/2022-23 Dated 08.10.2022

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.50,16,966/- (Rupees Fifty Lakh Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty Six only)** as on **12-07-2022** together with further interest to be charged from **13-07-2022** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr. Venkatesh Babu, S/o. Ramamoorthy, No.106, 6th Cross, Heggangalli, Peenya, 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560091. No.2) Mrs. Padmamma, W/o. Ramamoorthy, Yeldur, Yeldur Srinivaspur Kolar, Kolar - 563138.**

Note: That our **533-Bengaluru-HSR Layout Branch** has also extended financial assistance (CUB OSL SPECIAL-BR:501812080063265) dated **13-04-2020** requested by No.1 of you for which No.2 of you stood as Co-obligant for the facility for a total amount of **Rs. 2,00,000/-** at a ROI of **13.25%**. The same has been also classified as **NPA** on **10-12-2020** and the outstanding balance as on **12-07-2022** is **Rs. 2,79,031/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **13-07-2022** till the date of realization.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank
(Property Owned by Mr. Venkatesh Babu, S/o. Ramamoorthy)

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing New Municipal No.27, (Old Property No.21/7 then 7), in PID No.53-79-27 and Residential Property bearing New No.21/6, in PID No. 53-79-21/6, measuring East to West Northern side 70 feet, Southern side 60 feet, North to South Eastern side 60 feet, Western side 70 feet in all measuring 4,225 Sq.ft., situated at 7th Cross, Raghavendra Block, Srinagar, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No.53, presently coming under the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP and bounded on : East by : Private property, West by : Private property, North by : Road, South by : Private property.

Schedule - B : 246 Sq.feet undivided Right, Title and Interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule - A property.

Schedule - C : Flat bearing No.002, in Ground Floor, measuring about 1,053 Sq.feet super built-up Area containing Two Bed Rooms, together with RCC Roofing, Granite Flooring together with one Covered Car Parking Space, including proportionate share in Common Areas such as Passages, Lobbies, Staircase, Lift, etc. in the multistoried Residential building known as "Shree Shaila Residency" constructed over the Schedule - A Property.

Reserve Price : Rs.50,50,000/-
(Rupees Fifty Lakh Fifty Thousand only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
31-10-2022	**City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-HSR Layout Branch,** No.1672/A, 14th Main Road, Ground Floor, Sector VII (Near BDA Complex, Opp. MAX Showroom), HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560102. Telephone No.080 25726365, Cell No.7813026080.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :
(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-HSR Layout Branch, No.1672/A, 14th Main Road, Ground Floor, Sector VII (Near BDA Complex, Opp. MAX Showroom), HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560102.** **(3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-25726365, Cell No.7813026080. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **02.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the Sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 07-10-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

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CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.1,02,65,149/- (Rupees One Crore Two Lakh Sixty Five Thousand One Hundred and Forty Nine only)** as on **12-07-2022** together with further interest to be charged from **13-07-2022** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr. P. Sandeep, S/o. N.H. Puttegowda, No.59, 1st D Cross, 3rd Stage, 4th Block, Sathyanarayana Layout, Basaveshwara Nagar, Bangalore - 560079. No.2) Mr. N.H. Puttegowda, S/o. Puttanna Hanumaiah, No.59, 1st D Cross, 3rd Stage, 4th Block, Sathyanarayana Layout, Basaveshwara Nagar, Bangalore - 560079. No.3) Mrs. Gayathri, W/o. N.H. Puttegowda, No.59, 1st D Cross, 3rd Stage, 4th Block, Sathyanarayana Layout, Basaveshwara Nagar, Bangalore - 560079.**

Note : That our **533-Bengaluru - HSR Layout Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (CUB OSL SPECIAL-BR : 501812080063264) dated **13-04-2020** requested by No.1 of you for which Nos.2 and 3 of you stood as Co-obligants for the facility for a total amount of **Rs. 5,00,000/-** at a ROI of **13.25%.** The same has been also classified as **NPA** on **28-12-2020** and the outstanding balance as on **12-07-2022** is **Rs. 6,91,394/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **13-07-2022** till the date of realization.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A : (Properties Owned by Mr. P. Sandeep, S/o. N.H. Puttegowda)

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing New Municipal No.27, (Old property No.21/7, then 7). in PID No.53-79-27 and Residential property bearing New No.21/6, in PID No.53-79-21/6, measuring East to West Northern Side 70 feet, Southern Side 60 feet, North to South Eastern side 60 feet, Western side 70 feet in all measuring 4,225 Sq.ft., situated at 7th Cross, Raghavendra Block, Srinagar, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No.53 and bounded on the: East by : Private property, West by : Private property, North by : Road, South by : Private Property.

Schedule - B: Property 232 Sq.feet undivided Right, Title and Interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule A Property.

Schedule - C : Property Flat bearing No.004, in Ground Floor, measuring about 995 sq.feet Super built-up Area containing Two Bed Rooms, together with RCC Roofing, Granite Flooring together with one Covered Car Parking Space, including proportionate share in Common Area such as Passages, Lobbies, Staircase, Lift, etc. in the multistoried Residential Building known as "Shri Saila Residency" constructed over the Schedule A Property.

Reserve Price : Rs.50,50,000/-
(Rupees Fifty Lakh Fifty Thousand only)

Schedule - B : (Properties Owned by Mr. P. Sandeep, S/o. N.H. Puttegowda)

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing New Municipal No.27, (Old property No.21/7, then 7). in PID No.53-79-27 and Residential property bearing New No.21/6, in PID No.53-79-21/6, measuring East to West Northern Side 70 feet, Southern Side 60 feet, North to South Eastern side 60 feet, Western side 70 feet in all measuring 4,225 Sq.ft., situated at 7th Cross, Raghavendra Block, Srinagar, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No.53 and bounded on the: East by : Private property, West by : Private property, North by : Road, South by : Private Property.

Schedule - B : Property 239 Sq.feet undivided Right, Title and Interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule A Property.

Schedule - C : Property Flat bearing No.001, in Ground Floor, measuring about 1,022 Sq.ft. super built-up area containing Two Bed Rooms, together with RCC Roofing, Covered Car Parking Space, including proportionate share in Common Areas such as Passages, Lobbies, Staircase, Lift, etc. in the multistoried Residential Building known as Shri Saila Residency constructed over the Schedule A Property.

Reserve Price : Rs.50,50,000/-
(Rupees Fifty Lakh Fifty Thousand only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
31-10-2022	**City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-HSR Layout Branch,** No.1672/A, 14th Main Road, Ground Floor, Sector VII (Near BDA Complex, Opp. MAX Showroom), HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560102. Telephone No.080 25726365, Cell No.7813026080.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :
(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-HSR Layout Branch, No.1672/A, 14th Main Road, Ground Floor, Sector VII (Near BDA Complex, Opp. MAX Showroom), HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560102.** **(3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 02.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-25726365, Cell No.7813026080. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **03.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the Sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 07-10-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients **Smt. NIRMALA DEVI. R**, 61 years, W/o. M. Ramachandra & **Sri. VIJAYA KRISHNA. R**, 41 years, S/o. M. Ramachandra, R/at No.19/56, 7th Cross, Manjunathanagar, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-23. are intending to Purchase Schedule Property from **Dr. LEELAVATHI. P**, 55 years, W/o. R.V. Mohan Kumar, R/at No.33, 8th Cross, Manjunathanagar, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-23.
Any person/s having/asserting any right, title, interest, claim or intending to oppose the purchase in any manner may contact the undersigned and offer his/her/their version, in writing within seven days from publication of this notice with relevant documents, failing which my clients would proceed to complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
Residential property No.259, 9th Block, 2nd Stage Nagarbhavi Layout, formed by B.D.A. present BBMP Ward No.73-Kottigepalya, PID No.219/259, Bangalore, with ground, first & second floor building, on site measuring East to West 12.40 Meters & North to South 9.10 Meters, totally 112.84 Sq. Meters, and bounded
on: East by : Property No.250
West by : Road
North by : Property No.258
South by : Property No.260.

S. Ramesh Kumar, Advocate
231, I Floor, Laxmi Nivas,
S.C. Road, Gandhinagar,
Bengaluru 560 009. Mobile: 9845359588

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Material Management Department, Electric Loco Shed, Erode 638 002.
E-TENDER NOTICE
for the supply of Stores AMM/ Stores/E/03/2022

The Following e-tender has been published in IREPS website. Firms are requested to login to http://www.ireps.gov.in---Login---E-Tender---Goods & Services (New) and quote against the tender. Manual Quotations will not be entertained. Closing Time : 14.30 hours.

Tender No: 72225889

Description: 2 X 130 KVA STATIC INVERTR AS PER RDSO SPECIFICATION NO RESO/2018/ EL/SPEC/0140 REV '1'

Note:- This item is reserved for RDSO Approved sources only. Pl follow IREPS vendor directory – RDSO item ID: 3100084.

Due date: 27-OCT-2022, 14.30

Attention: Micro Small Enterprises (MSEs). The benefits provided to MSEs under public procurement policy for goods and services are as details provided in the link **http://www.ireps.gov.in**---IREPS Public document – Southern Railway.

Asst. Materials Manager
Electric Loco Shed, Erode 638 002.

Follow us on : twitter.com/@GMSRailway

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify to the general public that, my client **Mr. KUMARA SWAMY MANUPATI,** R/at H158, Sonestaa Meadows, Thubarahalli extended Road, Thubarahalli, Bengaluru – 560066 and he is intending to purchase the Schedule Property from its present sole owner **Mr.G.M.Muniyappa,** who had acquired the same in the registered Sale Deed dated 31.03.2004 and thereafter Gift Deed registered as Doc No.KEN-1-07629/2022-23, dated 03.10.2022 in Book No.1, CD in No.KEND1658, at the Office of Sub-Registrar, Kengeri.
If any person/s claiming any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to said Schedule property and/or any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned address together with supporting documents within **12 (Twelve) days** hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and our client would proceed to complete the sale transaction with the aforesaid owner subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
Site No.1540, in Block "A" in AECS Layout, presently **BBMP Khatha No.1746/1540** in the said AECS Layout formed by the Aircraft Employees' Co-Operative Society Ltd., Bengaluru developed in Sy.Nos.6/1 and other adjacent Properties and Meg East to West: 30 ft and North to South: 40 ft in total meg 1200 Sq.ft., situated at Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and site is bounded as **East By:** Site No.1541, **West By:** Site No.1539, **North By:** Site No.1527, **South By:** Road.

RUDRASWAMY. G.M &
Mr. NAVEEN KUMAR.L, Advocates
Associates, #27, Akshaya complex,
2nd Cross, Palace Guttahalli,
Malleshwaram, Bengaluru -560 003.
Mob No.9986833635

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client, **Mr. Ashwin L.S S/o. Sri. Lakshmanaswamy G V** aged about 31 years residing at Flat No. 201, 2nd Floor, Yadiyur Habitate, 4th Shop Line, Tata Silk Farm, Basavanagudi, Near Yadiyur Lake, Bangalore 560004 intends to purchase the property described in the Schedule Property herein mentioned and negotiated for the same with its owners **Mr. K.C. Nagendra S/o. Late K.R. Channakeshava Murthy,** aged about 51 years, **Mr. K.C. Nagasandarsh S/o. Late K.R. Channakeshava Murthy,** aged about 45 years and **Mr. K.C. Karthik S/o. Late K.R. Channakeshava Murthy,** aged about 43 years, Residing at No. G4 and G2 AUM, Residency, 80 South End Road, Basvanagudi, Bangalore 560004.
Notice is hereby given to all concerned calling that if any Banks, organizations, Societies, its earlier owners or their legal heirs, Joint Family members or any Third Parties or anybody has got any interest, title, claims, objections whatsoever over the Schedule Property or any part thereof. They are hereby requested to lodge their objections/claims to the undersigned in writing supported with relevant documents **within 15 days** from today. Failing which, my client will complete the sale transaction and proceed for the Registration of Sale Deed. He will not be considering any subsequent objections and same will not be binding on him thereafter.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece of Residential Property bearing **Municipal No. 18** (Old No. 79 Later No. 70), Situated at 1st Main Road, Tata Silk Farm, Bangalore, Now coming under Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Basavanagudi Ward No. 154, **BBMP PID No. 51-84-18** measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 80 feet, Totally Measuring 4000 Square feet bounded by: **East By** : Site No. 19 (Old No. 78 & Late No.69), **West By**: Site No. 17 (Old No. 80 & Late No.71), **North BY** : Site bearing old Nos. 2 & 3, **South By** : First Main Road.

S.D. LAW ASSOCIATES
Advocate and Consultants
No.87 Opp. 43A BMTC Bus Stop,
Vivekananda Nagar, Kathriguppe Main Road
BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore 560085.
(M) 9845930803

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

MATERIALS MANACEMENT DEPARTMENT
AUCTION PROGRAMME
NOTICE NO.11/2022

E-Auction will be conducted for disposal of ferrous scrap, Non–Farrous scrap, other Misc scrap, Condemned Wagon, Coaches & Locos Scrap Rails and other Permanent way scrap material.

Sl No	E-Auction conducted by	Date of auction for the month of November 2022			Meterials for auction
1	GSD/PER	07.11.2022	15.11.2022	22.11.2022	The details of item to be sold in e-auction will be available in catalogue in website www.ireps.gov.in
2	CSSD/GOC	01.11.2022	09.11.2022	17.11.2022	
3	SSD/PTJ	01.11.2022	09.11.2022	17.11.2022	
4	MAS Division	03.11.2022	10.11.2022	18.11.2022	
5	SA Division	03.11.2022	10.11.2022	18.11.2022	
6	TVC Division	08.11.2022	16.11.2022	23.11.2022	
7	PGT Division	08.11.2022	16.11.2022	23.11.2022	
8	TPJ Division	04.11.2022	14.11.2022	21.11.2022	
9	MDU Division	04.11.2022	14.11.2022	21.11.2022	

For details terms and conditions and downloading of catalogue please visit our web–site **http://www.ireps.gov.in-> E-Auction->Sale->Live Auctions.**

Principal Chief Materials Manager

Follow us on : twitter.com/@GMSRailway

TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, SHIGGAON

E-Procurement Tender Notification 07-10-2022

Itemwise (KW-3/KW-4) two cover Tender is called for the below mentioned indent Nos
1)DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT136655 /CALL-2 (Construction of bothside footpath and laying of Pavers at Savanur Road from Channamma circle to srinivas theatre For Rs 50.48 Lakhs).
2) DMA/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT135619/CALL-2 (Construction of Staff Quarters building for Shiggaon TMC Staff for Rs 64.83 Lakhs).
3) DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT135655 (Development of Nala From Kadanakatte to Hirekere and Fixing of Crash Barrier near Hirekere for Rs 168.76 Lakhs)
4) DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT136659 (Development of Vegetable Market at Shiggaon TMC Limits for Rs 127.09 Lakhs)
5) DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT136660 (Development of Graden at ward nos 6,12,14,16,17,21&23 of Shiggaon TMC Limits for Rs 126.35 Lakhs)
6) DMA/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT136652 (Construction of RCC Drain from new bus stand to Totagarike office and development of rajkaluve from NH-4 to Shadimahal of Shiggaon TMC Limits for Rs 253.16 Lakhs)for TMC Shiggaon under SFC Special Grant for the year 2022-23 grant.
All the terms and conditions pertaining to this tender shall be viewed in the Website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in for further clarifications please contact Town Municipal Council Shiggaon.

Sd/-
President
TMC Shiggaon

Sd/-
Chief Officer
TMC Shiggaon

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Application Notification No. 210/ Halt/SBC/10/2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed applications for appointment of Halt Agent from educated unemployed persons residing in and around the **Belandur** Road Halt Station in Bengaluru - Salem Section for issuing Unreserved Tickets on Commission Basis for a period of Five (05) Years or till up-gradation of the station whichever is earlier.
To Start functioning from : Dates to be notified by the Administration.

Last date for submission of Application:
Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 18-10-2022

For fetails log on :
www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
PUB/409/AAD/PRB/SWR/2022-23 **Bengaluru**

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client **Sri. B. Jayaprakash Bhutada @ B. Jay Prakash Bhutada,** Partner, M/s. Bhagya Nagar Industries, Aged 71 years, S/o. late C. Bhawari Lal, Residing at No.22, Sheetal Villa, 1st Main Road, S.T. Bed Layout, 4th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560 034, have lost/misplaced the Original Sale Deed dated 27.06.1984, Document No.1103/1984, Book-I, Volume No.29, Pages 331 to 336, registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, Sadasivpet, with respect to property bearing Survey No.164 (4-17), out which 8 plots Nos.675, 676, 677, 678, 684, 685, 686, 687, measuring 8000 Square Yards, equivalent to 7315.200 Square Meters, situated at Jayachandra Co.operative Industrial Estate Ltd, Sadasivpet. If anybody finds and returns within **7 days** from the date of publication to the undersigned, he/she will be suitably rewarded.

H.V. CHANDRASHEKAR, Advocate
No.38/2, "Sriramakripa", 2nd Floor,
N.A.T. Street, Basavanagudi,
Bengaluru-560 004. **Mob : 9740083659**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Public notice issued to the General public that, I the undersigned had lost the Original registered sale deed 02-03-2018, Document bearing No.BNS-1-17259/2017-18, stored in CD No.BNSD 643 and registered in the office of Sub-Registrar Shivajinagar (Banasawadi), Bangalore, in respect of the immovable Residential Converted Site bearing No.79, formed part of portion of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Present katha No.02/02/253, in the Residential Layout known at **"Sankalpa Green Park Residential Layout"** formed in Converted Servey.No.253 (Vide conversion order No.ALN(E) SR(KH) 128/12-13, Dt:11-02-2013, Issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, Property Situated at Kalkere Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. Measuring East to west 45 feet and North to South 40 feet, in all measuring 2250 Sq.fts., and in this regard I filed an E-Lost Report through online bearing No.0351825 /2022, Dt:07-10-2022. If any person got or traced out the undersigned or to the nearest police. Further if any person/s having any type of claim, right or interest in this regard or over the aforesaid property may kindly contact and lodge the same with documentary proof to the undersigned within **Seven (7) Days** of this publication failing which I will treat the certified copy of the aforesaid document as original.

Sd/- MR. RAJAT SUBRAMANYAM, S/o.K.S.Ramesh, R/at No.54, 4th Cross, S.V.Layout, Sanjayanagar, R.M.V.Extension, 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560094. Mobile No.9964987225, 9686360003.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. 10-SNT-MYS-2022
Dated: 03-10-2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites Tenders for the following works:

Sl.	Name of work	Approx. Value
1	Provision of Coach Guidance Display Board at Harihar-PF-3, Ranibennur-PF-2, and 3, Kadur-PF-1 & 2, Sagar Jambagar-PF-1, Subrahmanya Road- PF- 2 and Tiptur-PF-2 & 3 over Mysuru Division.	Rs. 2,07,81,668.15
2	Replacement of Integrated Passenger Information System at Arsikere, Bhadravati, Davangere, Hassan, Shivamogga Town and Coach Guidance Display Board at Tiptur over Mysuru Division.	Rs. 2,35,86,020.09
3	Shifting of signal and telecom cables in connection with work of extension of platform at Sagarakatte - Station in Mysuru-Arsikere Section.	Rs. 11,02,112.11
4	Signal and Telecom work for closing of Traffic interlocking LC No. 105 at Km 139/100-200 at Kabakaputtur, in connection with proposed construction of RUB in lieu of LC No. 105 at Kabakaputtur Station Yard.	Rs. 13,92,691.07
5	Provision of Annual Repair Contract (ARC) of Universal Fail Safe Block Instrument (UFSBI), DELTRON make for Two Years over Mysuru Division.	Rs. 28,33,288.00

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 28-10-2022

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication
PUB/408/AAD/PRB/SWR/2022-23 **Engineer, Mysuru**

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our Clint **M/s Navanaami Projects Pvt Ltd.,** having office at # 527, Ground Floor, 60 feet Road, 'P' Block, Sahakar Nagar, Bengaluru-92 has intends to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned herein below, owned by Mr. S V Yogeshwara, S/o. Mr. S R Venkategowda, R/at # 85/49, 2nd Cross, 1st Main, K N Extension, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-22, who represented as an absolute owner of the Schedule Property.
That the said owner has further represents that apart from it, there are no other person/s having a right or claim over the schedule property and that it has not mortgaged, created any lien, sold, transferred or encumbered over the Schedule Property in any manner nor has entered into an agreement of sale/development agreement /memorandum of understanding with any other person/s.
Any person/s having objection/s or claims, with respect to sale and transfer of the Schedule Property, may with the documentary evidence, lodge their objection/claims **within seven (07) days** from the date of this public notice with the undersigned. Failing which, our client shall proceed with the transaction and claim/s if any, shall be deemed to have been waived off.

SCHEDULE
All That piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Survey No.204, Old Survey No.158, measuring 0-21 Guntas, situated at Hunasemaranahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on:
East by : Land bearing Survey No.158;
West by : Land bearing Survey No.158;
North by : Road and
South by : Land bearing Survey No.156.

M/s Target Law
Advocates & Legal Consultants,
116/5-1, 11th Cross, Malleswaram,
Bangalore, Ph: 080-420-44148.

UJVN LIMITED

H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006,
Tel.: 0135-2763808, Fax- 0135- 2763508,
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com

पत्रांक 738 **E-Tender Cancellation Notice** दिनांक 07.10.2022

Due to unavoidable circumstances, NIT No -NCB/16/EE(E&M)/MB-II/Barrage/2021-22, invited by office of Executive Engineer (E&M), Joshiyara Barrage, for "Design, Manufacturing, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Trashrack panels & one no. Hydraulically Operated Movable Trash Rack Cleaning Machine (TRCM) to safely handle rake capacity of 2.0 Tonne as well as log grappler capacity of 2.0 Tonne including dismantling of existing Trash rack panels & TRCM at Joshiyara Barrage, Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand, India" is hereby cancelled.

Executive Engineer

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.76,95,848/- (Rupees Seventy Six Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty Eight only)** as on **12-07-2022** together with further interest to be charged from **13-07-2022** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mrs. Shashikala, W/o. Chandrashekar, No. 141/A, 5th Cross 1st N Block, 19th Main, Rajaji Nagar, Near Indian Bank, Mahalakshmi Layout, Bangalore Urban - 560010. No.2) Mr. Chandrashekar MG, S/o. Govindaiah, No. 141/A, 5th Cross 1st N Block, 19th Main, Rajaji Nagar, Near Indian Bank, Mahalakshmi Layout, Bangalore Urban - 560010.**

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mrs. Shashikala, W/o. Chandrashekar)

All that piece and parcel of immovable Property bearing Nos.17 and 18 (Seventeen and Eighteen), Old Khatha No. 723/17,18, New BBMP Katha No. 1212/723/17,18, formed out of converted land bearing Old Sy. No. 8, New Sy. No. 8/1, Converted for Non-agricultural Residential Purpose vide Official Memorandum No. B.DIS.ALN.SR (NA) 219/2003-04 Dated 05-04-2004, issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, Situated at Chikkabettahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, now comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore, Mahanagara Palike Limits, Bangalore, and Bounded on the : East by : 20-0 feet Wide Road, West by : Site Nos. 13 and 14, North by : Private Property, South by : Site No. 16, Measuring : East to West : 40 - 0 Feet, North to South : (54 feet 4 inches + 60.0)/2 Feet totally measuring 2,320 Sq.Ft. together with RCC Roofed 1,200 sq.ft. Ground Floor and 1,200 sq.ft. First Floor building constructed using Cement and Brick Walls, Jungle Wood Doors & Windows, Granite Flooring with all Civic amenties.

Reserve Price : Rs.1,00,00,000/-
(Rupees One Crore only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
31-10-2022	**City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-HSR Layout Branch,** No.1672/A, 14th Main Road, Ground Floor, Sector VII (Near BDA Complex, Opp. MAX Showroom), HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560102. Telephone No.080 25726365, Cell No.7813026080.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :
(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-HSR Layout Branch, No.1672/A, 14th Main Road, Ground Floor, Sector VII (Near BDA Complex, Opp. MAX Showroom), HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560102.** **(3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-25726365, Cell No.7813026080. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the Sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 07-10-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

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Government of Karnataka

Public Works Department, Udupi Division, Udupi. (PIU)

Website : **https://www.kpwd.gov.in** Email:**eepwdudp02@gmail.com**

No EE/PWD/UDN/NIT/37/2022-23/AE-2 **Dated:07.10.2022**

Tender Notice

The Tender for the following works are invited through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (Viz.www.eproc. karnataka. gov.in)

Sl No	Name of Work	Amount put to tender (in Rs)	EMD (in Rs)	Last date for Submission of tender in Eprocurement	Eligible Tenderer
1	Improvement to Hebri - Belve MDR road from Km 8.00 to 10.70 of Kundapura Taluk (One Time improvement) (155138)	₹ 1,01,38,594.00	₹ 2,00,000.00	25.10.2022	CLASS-III and above K-PWD

Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Udupi Division Udupi.

THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS

BENGALURU • SUNDAY • OCTOBER 9, 2022 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 26 • LATE CITY EDITION

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BLOW FOR RUSSIA AS BLAST DAMAGES BRIDGE TO CRIMEA

Three killed as a bomb-laden truck exploded over the bridge serving as a vital supply route for Russia in Crimea

A PRIZED PROJECT OF VLADIMIR PUTIN

Saturday's explosion set ablaze seven oil tankers, which were transported by a train and also collapsed two automobile lanes of the giant road and rail structure. The Kerch bridge, inaugurated in 2018, is a prized project of Russian leader Vladimir Putin. Two bodies were pulled out of the water. Russia has set up a panel to probe the blast | P11

UKRAINE OFFICIAL CALLS IT 'THE BEGINNING'

- Though Kyiv denied responsibility for the blast, an adviser to Ukraine president Volodymyr Zelneskyy tweeted, calling it "the beginning". "Everything illegal must be destroyed," he tweeted
- Meanwhile, amid crushing military defeats, Russia appointed new general, Sergei Surovikin, to lead its operations in Ukraine

19 km

LENGTH OF THE KERCH BRIDGE, THE ONLY LINK TO CRIMEA FROM RUSSIA

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Kharge, Tharoor can't be remote-controlled: Rahul

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Turuvekere (Tumakuru, Karnataka)

REACTING sharply to allegations that the Gandhi family will continue to call the shots in Congress regardless of who wins the election for party president, former party chief Rahul Gandhi on Saturday termed such notions an insult to the candidates.

Addressing a press conference here on Saturday during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, he said the two contestants — Mallikarjun Kharge and Shashi Tharoor — are capable leaders.

Election to the Congress president's post is scheduled to take place on October 17 and the results will be declared on October 19.

> They (Kharge and Tharoor) are people of stature. I don't think either of them will be remote controlled. I frankly feel the tone is an insult to both
>
> Rahul Gandhi

On the BJP's allegations that many Congress leaders are tainted as they have been linked to scams and are out on bail, Rahul countered that the saffron party is using the central agencies at its disposal to attack political opponents. "These are the tactics they use to put pressure on the Opposition and topple governments. Every single person understands these things," he said.

Tearing into the Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre, he said the BJP rule has resulted in massive concentration of wealth among a few people and destroyed the backbone of the country's small businesses and farmers.

Gandhi claimed the objective of the Bharat Jodo Yatra is to bring India together and not the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. "India is being divided, violence is being spread into our society, and this is damaging for our country," he said, adding that his yatra will raise these issues.

On the Congress government in Rajasthan accepting ₹60,000 crore investment from the Adani group, Gandhi clarified that no chief minister can refuse such a massive investment offer. "I am not against corporates or businessmen but against the monopolisation of the business by 2-3 individuals that the BJP government at the Centre has been helping," he added.

'Not quitting, it's a fight to finish'

ENS @ T'Puram

AMID rumours that he has withdrawn from the election, Shashi Tharoor on Saturday sought to clear the air, saying he is very much in the race. In a video message, Tharoor said he has come across rumours attributing to Delhi sources that he has backed out. "If not now, then never... I don't withdraw from a challenge. Never have all my life, never will. This is a struggle. It's a friendly contest within the party. But it's a fight to the finish and I'm here to stay the course," the Thiruvanathapuram MP said.

Meanwhile, a senior Congress leader said that Tharoor expects some undercurrents from his home state Kerala. "He is aware that he will not win, but he is determined to bring down the votes of Kharge. This will help him get a berth in the Congress Working Committee or become the general secretary," the leader said.

CABINET ACCEPTS REPORT ON HIKING SC/ST QUOTA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka cabinet on Saturday decided to approve the Justice Nagamohan Das Committee report on increasing the reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The government will pass an executive order to this effect in two to three days.

After the special cabinet meeting, Law Minister JC Madhu Swamy said that as decided at the all-party meeting on Friday, the Cabinet okayed the decision to accept the report. Once implemented, the reservation for SCs will go up from the present 15 per cent to 17 per cent and for STs from 3 per cent to 7 per cent. The executive order will have all details of specific percentages of reservation for various categories, and will be implemented immediately.

Madhu Swamy said the government has also studied the report by the Justice Subhash Adi committee, which was constituted to study the Justice Nagamohan Das panel report. Also, the Justice Nagamohan Das Committee report mentions the Justice AJ Sadashiva committee report on internal reservation among SC/STs and Other Backward Classes. "The Cabinet has given powers to me and the Law Department to prepare a report on internal reservation based on the Justice Sadashiva committee report. We will decide whether to constitute a committee. We will submit a report to the cabinet soon. No time frame has been set for us," he added.

He said many castes and communities have been demanding that they be included in SC/ST and OBC categories.

"Their demands will be studied in detail to get a clear picture on the reservation percentage. Now, Tamil Nadu has 69 per cent reservation for SC/STs and OBCs and Uttar Pradesh 60 per cent. With the 10 per cent quota for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) as specified by the Central government, we have already crossed 60 per cent," he said.

CONTINUED ON: P6

'Reservation not a solution'

Justice Nagamohan Das speaks about the challenges and issues of the reservation system of India in an interview with *The New Sunday Express*. | P6

EXPRESS READ

Techie held for hoax calls to Chief Secy office

Bengaluru: A software engineer, 41, who is allegedly suffering from mental issues, has been arrested for making three hoax calls from his mobile to the office of the Chief Secretary on Friday, claiming that he has planted bombs. He was picked from his house in Hebbagodi on Friday night. P5

Uddhav, Shinde camps can't use Sena name: EC

New Delhi: The Election Commission on Saturday barred the Shiv Sena factions led by Uddhav Thackeray and Eknath Shinde from using the party name and its symbol in the Andheri East bypoll. The poll panel asked them to suggest by Monday three name choices for their groups. P10

12 killed as bus catches fire in Nashik

Nashik: At least 12 passengers, including a two-year-old child, were killed and 43 injured after a private bus hit a trailer truck and caught fire in Nashik city on Saturday, police officials said. After ramming the truck, the bus also hit a mini-van, causing it to overturn.

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BBMP to clear ₹25 cr bills for shoddy PM visit work

MOHAMMED YACOOB @ Bengaluru

BILLS worth ₹25 crore for the development works on the stretch between Mariyappanapalya in Hebbal to Kommaghatta, completed just before PM Narendra Modi's visit in June and that went bad soon after, are all set to be cleared. The BBMP Technical Vigilance Cell Under Commissioner (TVCC) has given the green signal for the payments. While activists sought a third-party inspection and certification for works, Palike's Engineer-in-Chief BS Prahalad feels it is not necessary.

The day after the PM left the city, the roads caved in and tar peeled off because of the shoddy work. RTI activist and general secretary of KHB Nagarikara Kshemabivridhi Sangha, S Sudarshan, who had filed a complaint against the poor quality of work, said TVCC itself was under scanner as its chief Doddaiah was suspended for corrupt practices. P4

RTI filed in July

RTI activist S Sudarshan had filed an RTI in July, seeking details of project, job code, work order

Woman gets down to buy chips, comes under train

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

IN a heart-rending incident, a 31-year-old woman lost her life after coming under the Kamakhya AC Superfast Express which was leaving from the Sir M Visvesvaraya Terminal (SMVT) in Baiyappanahalli on Saturday morning. Her three-year-old daughter and mother were on the train and continued with their journey unaware of the accident.

The deceased, Sheetal, and her family were to travel to New Alipurduar station in West Bengal. The train (No. 12551) was leaving from Platform One at 9.03 am when the accident occurred.

An eyewitness said, "The woman stepped out of her AC coach to buy some chips, probably for her daughter, from a stall on the platform. When she saw the train moving, she ran to board it, but slipped and fell on the tracks. A Government Railway Police constable, Shivaraj, patrolling on the platform, immediately pulled her out." A Railway Protection Force cop too assisted him later.

When the woman was rescued, her one hand was heavily fractured and dangling. "She spoke to us in Hindi. We told her she was alright and to be careful when moving her hand as it was injured. We shifted her by ambulance to Bowring Hospital, but she died there soon after," the source said. P5

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LIC / P1 / 2022-23 / 13 / Eng

ALMANAC TODAY
Sunday: 09/10/2022 • Year: Shubhakruta • Ayana: Dakshinayana • Ritu: Sharad • Masa: Ashwayuja • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Purnima 2.09 am • Nakshatra: Uttharabhadra 5.04 pm • Moon in Meena Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00pm • Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 18°C | MAX 27°C
FORECAST
Showers late. Overcast

Sunrise 6.09 am
Sunset 6.05 pm
Moonrise 4.31 pm
Moonset 3.40 am

GREEN PEACE

Mangalurean Gyan Shetty has found his calling in nurturing plants, and has even turned it into a small-time business

DIVYA COUTINO @ Mangaluru

GYAN Shetty, a resident of Bikarnakatte in Mangaluru, had been fascinated with plants since childhood. Today, he tends to exotic mulberries and mangoes, tomatoes and pomegranates in his nursery. His rooftop garden is a burst of colour, with foliage, succulents, captors, lilies, medicinal herbs, ornamental and air plants.

Gyan (28) has managed to turn his passion into business. From engineering to design to gardening, it's been an odd journey, and began when as a child, he would help water the plants which his mother tended to. He initially started off with terrace gardening as there was insufficient space for plants. "We had only small plants in pots, but I wanted to grow many varieties. I planted some fruit trees, like mango, mulberry and pomegranate on the terrace, and many people told me they wouldn't grow, but they did." The Covid-19 pandemic and social media helped him scale up his terrace garden. "During the pandemic, when I was working from home for a company, I used to post pictures of my plants on social media. People would pass comments, saying it's a girl thing, and why I was into gardening. I was confused about which profession I wanted to pursue, but in gardening I found peace, and I didn't know this could be my business too. Initially, I purchased some plants, then a lot of plants were exchanged with friends and family," he said.

Gardening was Gyan's hobby, especially as his mother Shobha Shetty was a nifty green thumb. "My mother would do the gardening, and I would observe the plants and their changes. I was curious to know what happens till blooming, and how a seed helped grow another plant. I started studying nature. In our Science syllabus in school, we had lessons on how vegetables and crops are grown. The first plant I grew was potatoes. This encouraged me," he told The New Sunday Express.

Slowly, he got deeply involved with plants and learnt to use organic waste. "Kitchen waste is very important for gardening -- 60 per cent of kitchen waste is wet and can be composted. It is black gold. So far, I have used only kitchen waste compost, so everything is organic. I use neem oil as spray. After I set up the nursery, I use chemical pesticide and not chemical fertiliser," he says.

Gyan started a nursery next to his house in February this year, and moved his plants from the terrace. The first job of the day for Gyan and his mother is to clean the nursery and compost the fallen leaves. "Leaf compost is very good for foliage plants since it has a high amount of carbon. We water sun-loving plants daily and air loving plants they don't require regular water because it doesn't evaporate," says Gyan.

His nursery draws many visitors on a daily basis, and sales have picked up. While Gyan and Shobha manage the nursery, his father Balakrishna Shetty helps with transportation of plants. The nursery was started this February and soon after started having sales.

It's been a change of gear for the youngster, who initially took up engineering in information science, but quit the course after two years due to personal reasons. He was interested in interior design and pursued a three-year diploma in civil engineering. Quite suddenly, he developed health complications and was hospitalised for a long time. After recovering, he worked as a designer in Mangaluru and for a few years in Bengaluru.

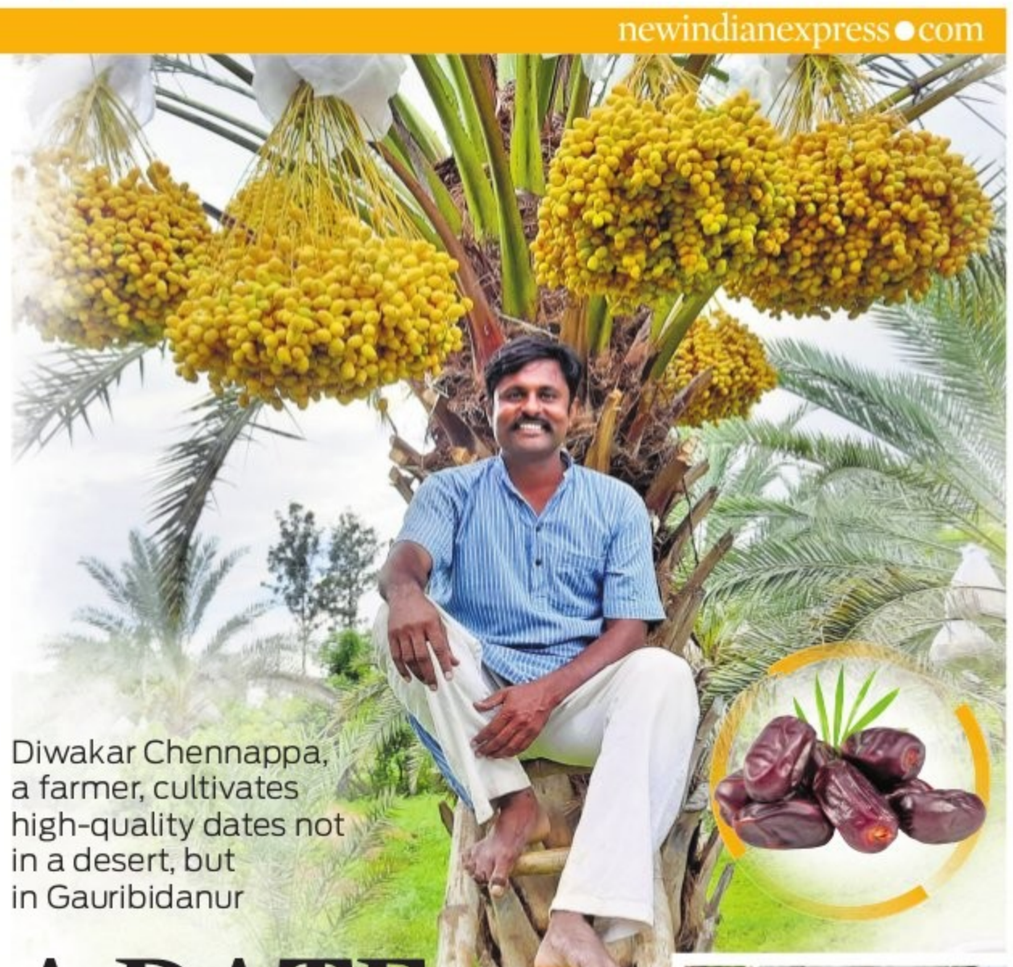
Affordable price

Gyan's plants are priced from ₹30 to ₹650, which is lower than local nurseries. Even before starting the nursery, he had orders coming in as he kept posting about plants on social media. He started getting orders from Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand, and would ship plants. His plants were recently exhibited in Mangaluru. Gloria, a customer, said the prices were reasonable, and she thought "Gyan wasn't interested in doing business". To this, Gyan says other nurseries charge unreasonable prices but he doesn't want to fleece customers.

Message for all

People get attached to plants because they have life. When you get a plant, you should know what the plant needs. There's no point getting a plant and killing it. If I sell a plant, it should grow well in their homes. People keep all kinds of indoor plants, but all indoor plants cannot be kept indoors all the time. Some can be kept because they need less light. Watering is the main thing, plants die because of overwatering as roots rot.

It is very unfortunate to see Mangaluru lose its trees. In the name of development, 100-year-old trees are chopped, especially in Valencia, Mangaladevi. It is so burning hot you can't walk on that road. This is not development. We should preserve what we have and stop chopping trees, which provide shade to people, animals and birds. – Gyan Shetty



Diwakar Chennappa, a farmer, cultivates high-quality dates not in a desert, but in Gauribidanur

A DATE WITH THE PALM

MOHAMMED YACOOB @ Bengaluru

FROM little date seeds, great things are born' is a famous African proverb that reiterates the universal truth that all big achievers start from scratch. And a farmer from the little town of Gauribidanur in Chikkaballapur district, stands testimony to this. Two decades ago, the farmer Diwakar Chennappa, 44, heard a talk about the potential of growing dates in South India from Dharmapuri-based farmer Nizamuddin, during Krishi Mela at GKVK Bengaluru. Till then, he, like everyone else, was under the impression that the best dates are those that are imported from the Middle East.

Inspired by the talk, Chennappa visited Nizamuddin's farm in Tamil Nadu and was surprised to see the latter's success at growing dates. "I brought 150 tissue-cultured date palms and planted them on my two-acre land at Mudgankunte, Gauribidanur. The weather and soil conditions here are very similar. It took four years to get my first crop. The initial harvest was around 800-1,000 kg, but now I get 5 tonnes annually," he told The New Sunday Express.

He does not sell his produce in markets or stores. Instead, he conducts harvest festivals twice between August and September and invites interested people. He also delivers to homes in Bengaluru based on the quantity of the orders.

The farmer, while purchasing the tissue-cultured plant was told by Nizamuddin to use good quality medicines and fertilizers. But Chennappa trusted his instinct and started to produce organic medicines on his own and it paid rich dividends.

He uses only organic solutions like neem, garlic and other herbs. He also pollinates the plants through the dusting method, a demanding task. Once the process is done, the fruits can be expected by August-September, and it is ready for harvest.

"I approached people to visit my farm land on harvest festivals. Around 300 to 400 people come and purchase the dates. I give it for Rs 310 a kg during festivals. In case, I get bulk delivery orders from Bengaluru, I charge Rs 350 a kg and deliver to gated communities or apartment complexes. I don't depend on the middleman as I may get only Rs 180 a kg and the middleman may pocket the same amount for doing nothing," Chennappa said.

Diwakar Chennappa conducts harvest festivals twice between August and September and invites interested people | EXPRESS

₹3,000
EACH SAPLING

To make sure that his project did not tank, the farmer, after inquiring, brought only tissue-cultured saplings that cost ₹ 3,000 each as chance of survival is more. The farm has 135 trees now and 15 are male palm trees. Date groves require the same amount of water as coconut.

I approached people to visit my farm land on harvest festivals. Around 300 to 400 people come and purchase the dates. I give it for Rs 310 a kg during festivals. I don't depend on the middleman as I may get only Rs 180 a kg and the middleman may pocket the same amount doing nothing -
Diwakar Chennappa

DESPITE BAN ORDER

Aggregator auto services on, slash prices

NAMRATA SINDWANI
@ Bengaluru

DESPITE Karnataka government asking them to stop their services, aggregator autorickshaws continue their services with prices slashed from the usual Rs 100 to Rs 70-Rs 80

Vaibhav Sadhamta, a professional in the city, complained that the autorickshaws accept bookings but fail to reach the pickup location, and cancel the booking, forcing passengers to wait.

For a 1.5 km ride, Ola charged Rs 83, Uber Rs 74 and Rapido Rs 76. Ola and Rapido have slashed prices. The breakup shows Rs 30 for base fare and Rs 15 for subsequent km similar to what the government has ordered.

The Transport Department said that they have not received any response from the aggregator autorickshaw services, and plan to take action against them on Monday. Hemantha Kumar, Transport Commissioner, said that they are unaware of the prices being slashed till morning, but it will still remain illegal. "The local autorickshws do not cooperate, and often charge higher than their aggregator counterpart which are more convenient to get especially during the night," said Sriparna Roy, a professional.

Garbage hill stops TBM work

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WHEN a tunnel boring machine has to stop work, it is unimaginable that the reason could be heaps of garbage beneath the ground. However, that's the reality. Rudra, the tunnel boring machine, carrying out work for the underground corridor from Kalena Agrahara-Nagawara Line for BMRCL, had only completed one leg of its tunnelling from the ramp near Jayadeva Fire station to Dairy Circle. After this, the 'waste' hurdle blocked the next leg from Dairy Circle to Bannerghatta Road.

BMRCL Managing Director Anjum Parwez confirmed that the machine has been out of action since July. "Earlier, there were stone quarries, and garbage was dumped as it was vacant 20 years ago. The waste comprises everything including animal bones."

When the tunnelling was being done through the garbage mound, it caved in, creating sinkholes, forcing Rudra to stop work temporarily, another Metro official said.

The TBM will itself facilitate removal of garbage. "After detailed discussions, we have decided on putting in place a concrete surface by using piling machines. When the concrete settles, tunnelling work can resume. It can take till mid-January 2023 for the concrete surface to be readied.

However, the TBM can begin operations as soon as a portion of the concrete is ready," he said. The piling process will include taking land on rent from the neighbouring areas for three months, Parwez said, adding that the work halt will not affect the completion of the underground line as the other seven TBMs are working. "We will meet the December 2024 deadline for Reach-6," he said.

Earlier, there were stone quarries, and garbage was dumped as it was vacant 20 years ago. The waste comprises everything including animal bones

Anjum Parwez, Managing Director, BMRCL

Dr Anupama N Shetty (centre), Mission Director, Biocon Foundation receives the award from Dr Sankar Sanyal, chief guest and president, All India Harijan Sevak Sangh, Delhi

Biocon Foundation wins Mahatma Award

Biocon Foundation, the CSR arm of Biocon Limited, was conferred with the 'Mahatma Award 2022 for Excellence in Social Good' under the 'Sustainable Cities and Communities' category, for work done in the city. The award was presented to Biocon Foundation as a mark of recognition of various projects undertaken during the year, like BMRCL's Hebbagodi Metro Station, Hebbagodi Lake rejuvenation, transformation of Minsk Square traffic island, and creating urban micro-forests in Dakshina Kannada. Executive Chairperson, Biocon and Managing Trustee, Biocon Foundation, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw said the 'Mahatma Award' is a "great recognition of Biocon Foundation's comprehensive efforts towards improving the quality of life in Bengaluru."

KAMS: Make it assessment, not exam

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE government's plan to introduce board-like examinations for Classes 5 and 8 has elicited mixed response from schools and organisations regarding its implementation.

Discussions are reportedly underway to amend section 16 of the Right to Education Act, under which no child can be held back or expelled in their elementary examination, to alter the no detention policy amid concerns that students are non-committal about their schooling. The no-detention policy was given as one of the reasons for poor performances in the SSLC board examinations.

Schools have welcomed the decision but asked that it be phrased differently. "We suggest that the education department should not project it as public examination or a state-level examination, but as an assessment, where the same purpose can be met," said Shashi Kumar, general secretary, Karnataka Associated Management of School. He suggested that the word examination be avoided, and should be conducted at school-level.

AIDSO state secretary Ajay Kamath, said, "Conducting exam for children of that age group creates undue mental stress on them."

'Doddaiah's a one-off case'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

SUDARSHAN had demanded a third-party investigation before the bills are cleared.

He said, "I knew the project was of low quality as I witnessed its poor execution. I had brought it to the notice of the media and two low-ranking engineers were suspended and contractor Ramesh was fined for the tar peeling off and road caving in. People who were supposed to be fixed escaped. Now, the Palike's TVCC has said the work was good and the file has been cleared. Soon, the bills worth ₹25 crore will be settled."

He had also filed an RTI in July, seeking information from the BBMP on the project. "The BBMP has not given a reply yet and I am going for the first appeal before the Information Commission," he added.

BBMP Engineer-in-Chief BS Prahalad said Doddaiah's was a one-off case and institutions like TVCC cannot be held responsible. "Based on the satisfactory report for the work done on Bengaluru University Road, Hebbal Road and parts of Mysuru Road, the Palike will clear only those bills," he added.

STAGE SET FOR EID MILAD TODAY

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE All Karnataka Meelad-O-Juloos-E-Rasool Alameen Committee (AKNMRC), which organises Bengaluru's largest Eid Milad procession to mark the birth anniversary procession of Prophet Muhammed, is all set to hold a grand procession after two years of hiatus due to the pandemic.

AKNMRC said that all approvals have been granted. The procession will begin from Hegde Nagar and pass through Govindpura, Tannery Road and conclude at Kambalposh Dargah at Shivajinagar. Speaking to TNSE, Ismail Sharieff Nana, a member of the committee, said the police permission has been taken, and the community will also engage volunteers to monitor the procession. Police security has also been sought for the procession as it will pass through some sensitive areas.

"The rally will begin between 11.30 am and noon from Ramakrishna Hegde Nagar. There will be a programme at Bilal Masjid where the flag will be hoisted. An invitation has been extended to leaders of all the parties," said a volunteer of the committee. "Suitable security arrangements have been made," said Bheemashankar Guled, DCP, East Division.

Traffic restrictions

In view of the Valmiki Jayanti celebrations at Vidhana Soudha and Eid Milad procession in other parts of the city, the Bengaluru Traffic Police have issued an advisory to avoid the following roads on Sunday from 8 am to 10 pm. The roads are: Dr BR Ambedkar Road (in front of Vidhana Soudha) - Balekundri Circle to KR Circle - Khoday Circle to KR Circle (Sheshadri Road) - CID Junction to KR Circle (Palace Road-Sheshadri Road) - KR Circle to Police Corner (Nrupathunga Road) -Mysuru Bank Circle to KR Circle.

Officials of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Bangalore Zonal Unit, have seized a rhodium-coated crude gold chain and a gold chain weighing 1120.22 grams, valued at Rs 60 lakh, after intercepting a passenger and checking the aircraft. In another operation, DRI sleuths intercepted a passenger, who was to travel to Bangkok and attempted to smuggle $32,500 concealed in a handbag and check-in baggage

Techie makes hoax bomb calls to CS office, held

Accused was mentally disturbed due to divorce, had lost his job; was in the habit of making random calls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A 41-year-old software engineer, who is allegedly going through mental issues over his troubled marriage and career, has been arrested for making three hoax calls to the office of the Chief Secretary in Vidhana Soudha on Friday, claiming that he has planted bombs. The calls were made around 2.06 pm from his mobile phone. In a joint operation by the team of Central, South East division police along with the jurisdictional Hebbagodi police of the Bengaluru Rural police, the accused was picked up from his house in Hebbagodi on the Hosur Main Road on Friday night by tracking his phone.

The accused Prashanth is a native of Hosapete in Vijayanagara district. He is a mechanical engineer but works as a techie, and stays with his parents after divorcing his wife.

Prashanth was distraught over successive breakups too.

Making calls a habit

He reportedly lost his job around seven months back, and was suffering from psychological issues. He has allegedly made such calls to other places, and has made it a habit, selecting contact details randomly from the internet.

"The staffers of the CS' office immediately alerted the Vidhana Soudha security police about the hoax calls, and the information was passed on to the police. Vidhana Soudha police have registered a case. He has no criminal antecedents, but seems to be suffering from psychological issues," said an officer.

The staffers of the CS' office immediately alerted the Vidhana Soudha security police about the hoax calls, and the information was passed on to the police. Vidhana Soudha police have registered a case — Police

HC judge flags bad upkeep of city hosps

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

IN a surprise visit to Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital and KC General Hospital, Karnataka High Court Justice B Veerappa noticed that there was a lack of cleanliness, hygiene and poor maintenance.

He told media persons at **Bowring Hospital** that the visit was undertaken to evaluate how the system is functioning in Bengaluru. He flagged the hospital system, hygiene and cleanliness, and added that although support was provided by the government, there is a lack of maintenance.

There are no clean beds, proper storage of medical supplies, issues with clearance of waste and absence of doctors were noticed. It was also found that five of six doctors in a department were on leave, and the superintendent had not reached the hospital by 10:30 am. At KC General hospital, the situation was better compared to Bowring Hospital. Justice Veerappa noticed that in the emergency department a patient's body was lying since 5.30am. The hospital said the police were informed but no action was taken. Suitable actions were taken after his visit. Issues of cleanliness and lack of Group D staff were noticed, said Dr Satish P, who interacted with Justice Veerappa.

Govt must check fake therapists: High Court

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court has observed that it is high time the government comes up with some regulatory measures to check the mushrooming of unqualified therapists.

Dismissing a criminal petition filed by Sanjana Fernandes alias Raveera, an alleged self-proclaimed therapist, seeking quashing of criminal proceedings against her, Justice M Nagaprasanna observed, "It is in the public domain that there is huge mushrooming of so-called therapies and therapists on social media, where therapists pose to be in the field of any therapy. It is also in public domain that they are all pseudo-therapists who are 'Instagram influencers'."

'Not bound by ethics'

"Therapists of this kind are many in number on social media. In reality, they are not bound by any ethics or regulated by any norms. Cases of this nature have begun to emerge in large proportions where people who want some therapy fall prey to such pseudo-therapists. Therefore, it is time the government comes up with regulatory measures to check the growth of such therapists," the judge noted.

An IT professional had filed a complaint against Sanjana Fernandes, who offered therapy online, and had transferred money to her bank accounts. However, he later realised that she was running multiple accounts on social media, offering various therapies, and had filed a complaint.

FIVE COPS SUSPENDED FOR EXTORTING BUSINESSMAN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FIVE policemen, including a probationary sub-inspector attached to Sadashivanagar police station, were kept under suspension for extorting money from a businessman, threatening to frame him in a cricket betting racket.

The policemen are alleged to have taken Rs 3 lakh from the businessman, a resident of Sahakarnagar, who filed a complaint with North East division's Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP). He instructed an ACP-rank officer to conduct a preliminary enquiry. The inquiry report was passed on to Central Division DCP, under whose jurisdiction Sadashivanagar police station comes. The five erring cops tried to fleece more money from the victim, claiming to be local cops though the area did not come under their jurisdiction.

The suspended policemen include a police sub-inspector, a probationary sub-inspector and three constabulary rank personnel. "We have suspended five policemen in relation to a cricket betting raid and a detailed departmental inquiry was ordered," R Srinivas Gowda, DCP (Central) said.

The incident is said to have happened last month, and the suspension order followed the findings of the preliminary inquiry.

Unaware, victim's mother fails to answer calls

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Sadly, the family knew nothing about the tragedy. "She gave us the mobile number of her mother soon after we rescued her. We dialled that number, but calls went unanswered," another source said. A doctor from the hospital told TNSE, "Outwardly, she appeared to have suffered only a fracture in her right hand. We suspect an internal head injury to be the cause of her death and the postmortem will give us the correct picture." Another railway source said, "We are all upset. Seeing only the hand injury initially, we thought it was one of those happy stories with a life being saved due to alert railway cops. Sadly, it ended in a tragedy." Kamakhya Express used to depart from the Bengaluru Cantonment station and was recently shifted to SMVT.

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Year	Ranks
2020 - 2021	24
2019 - 2020	22
2018 - 2019	25

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Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is expected to visit Mandya district to take part in a Kumbh Mela at Ambigarahalli Triveni Sangama, at K R Pet taluk that will be held from October 13 to 16

SUNDAY INTERVIEW

'Quota no solution, it has to end one day'

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

WITHIN 24 hours after an all-party meeting, the state Cabinet on Saturday accepted the **Justice Nagamohan Das** Committee report on increasing reservation for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities. Justice Nagamohan Das, in an interview with The New Sunday Express, speaks about the challenges and issues of the reservation system. Excerpts:

The Cabinet has approved your Committee's recommendations, what next?
One of my recommendations was to formulate a reservation Bill, and request the Union government to amend the Constitution, to include it in the 9th Schedule. There is no need for approval of the Union government. Irrespective of whether it is included in the 9th Schedule, the state government can implement the Bill immediately. Including it under the 9th Schedule is just a protective measure.

What are the challenges before the State government?
There are no challenges, but it needs political will to implement. They should bring in a Bill and pass it. I gave the report two years, four months ago, and it's been accepted now. Wisdom has prevailed over political parties in Karnataka. All parties unanimously accepted our report.

How is it in other states?
Nine states -- Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu -- have crossed 50 per cent reservation.

Can reservation exceed 50 per cent?
The Supreme Court, in the Indra Sawhney case, put a cap of 50 per cent on all reservation, but it can be relaxed in exceptional circumstances. The Union government was giving 49.5 per cent reservation to SC, ST and OBC. In 2019, it amended the Constitution and introduced 10 per cent reservation for Economically Weaker Sections in General Category. When the Centre can cross 50 per cent, why not the State?

Does reservation reach the beneficiaries?
Budget allocation is made on the basis of SC/ST population. Today, some SC/STs are not enjoying the fruits of reservation. That is because many of them don't have basic education. Government employment prescribes minimum education and some of them don't have even this qualification. Therefore, the government should focus on their education. Instead of giving free sites, cattle or loans, the government should spend on education of SC/ST communities.

Will an increase in reservation allow other communities to demand they be included?
Our report mentions it. Reservation is there for past 75 years. It has benefited a small section, but a large section remains without any benefits. Reservation alone is not the solution. We must think of providing better education and employment opportunities.

Till when do we need treservation?
We cannot fix a time for this. Even if the government decides to end reservation today, one cannot see its fruits tomorrow. We have to work on the policy and programme. If we start now, we can see abundant changes in the next three or four years. There is a solution for every problem, and the government should work towards it. Let us not live with the illusion of getting better through reservation. We need to continue reservation till we reach a particular environment in the country. I say reservation has to come to an end. With cabinet approval, we have taken one step forward to give social justice. But one should not be under the illusion that it will solve all problems.

How long did it take you to prepare this report?
In 2019, a committee was constituted during the coalition government, but the government collapsed within a week. When the Yediyurappa government took charge, it was reconstituted and we submitted the report on July 2, 2020, as per schedule.

What was the basis for increasing reservation -- two per cent for SC and four per cent for ST?
According to population, STs alone are eligible for more than 7.5 per cent reservation, and SCs for 18 per cent. But the terms of reference were to make it 17 per cent from the existing 15 per cent for SC, and 7 per cent from 3 per cent for ST. We have to work within the terms of reference. My hands were tied with the terms of reference.

Does it not cause injustice to General Category?
We have suggested to take it from General Category. By increasing reservation to SC and ST, we will not cause injustice to General Category. SCs, STs and OBCs together constitute 76 per cent population of the state, the remaining 24 per cent is General. It also means 50 per cent reservation is given to 76 per cent, and remaining 50 per cent to 24 per cent. We are just trying to balance it.

CM WILL BE NAMED ONCE WE WIN ELECTIONS, SAYS RAHUL

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi addesses the media, as CLP leader Siddaramaiah looks on, during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Turuvekere, Tumakuru district, on Saturday | UDAYASHANKAR S

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Turuvekere (Tumakuru)

CONGRESS MP Rahul Gandhi, whose Bharat Jodo Yatra is passing through the state, said on Saturday that the Grand Old Party will take a call on its chief ministerial candidate through a due process, once the results are out after the 2023 Assembly polls. "We have a formidable team, leaders who are complementary and brilliant. Once we win the polls, the decision on the chief minister's post will be taken through a process carried out in the Congress party," he clarified, sidestepping a query regarding the Dalit CM issue.

Rahul, who claimed to have gauged the ground situation through his yatra, by communicating with people of all walks of life, expressed confidence of the Congress winning the 2023 polls. Replying to a query at a press conference, he ruled out chances of an alliance with the JDS, as he felt that the situation would not arise. "I am pretty certain that the Congress will win the polls. In my experience over the last few days during which I spoke to farmers, labourers and small businessmen, all complain of the level of corruption and the 40 per cent commission that the BJP government has been charging from everyone. The people are also struggling with unemployment," he claimed.

Referring to bickering within the party, the Wayanad MP blamed the media for it, claiming the latter has an interest in disturbing the processes of the Congress.

Asked whether "Karnataka is giving oxygen to the Grand Old Party", Rahul refused to subscribe to the theory and said, "It is a little demeaning to the people of the state," who have been giving an overwhelming response to the party.

"Our party believes in conversation and discussion with leaders with different points of view. In order to win polls, they have to work together," he said. He observed that pluralism is the nature of the country, as the Constitution states that "India is a union of states, which means all our languages, states and traditions have an equally important place".

Rahul addressed a public rally in the evening where he lambasted the BJP for allegedly dividing the country by spreading hatred. A section of the crowd insisted that Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Siddaramaiah speak, but the latter convinced them that he cannot when Rahul has already spoken, but promised to come again to the town on another occasion. KPCC president D K Shivakumar, Rajya Sabha member Jairam Ramesh, leaders Dr G Parameshwar and Priyank Kharge were present.

Chinese army in India, Modi messed up, says Rahul

TURUVEKERE: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said the party would continue to raise the fundamental issue of poor handling of external affairs by the Central government. "The Chinese army is sitting today inside Indian territory, and has occupied more than 1,000sqkm, a slightly smaller area than Delhi, and the government refuses to do anything, refuses a discussion in Parliament as it is scared. The PM stated that no land has been taken and destroyed India's negotiating position. But we will continue to raise the issue," he told the media. On the ban on Popular Front of India, he clarified that he is in favour of a ban on any organisation or individual who spreads hatred in society, regardless of their community, and everybody should oppose hatred. The NEP is against the ethos of the country as it distorts our history, tradition and culture, besides centralising the education system, he remarked. On the BJP's allegation that the Congress contributed to India's partition, Rahul shot back that no RSS leader had fought for freedom. "According to my understanding of history, they backed the British and Veer Savarkar was an example," he alleged. Rahul said the Bharat Jodo Yatra is not aimed at the 2024 polls, though political leaders are participating in it. "By nature, I believe in tapasya. I wanted an element in this communication with people, the element of suffering for myself. I can share the suffering, that's the idea of my yatra," he said philosophically.

Ticket hopefuls mobilise masses

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Turuvekere (Tumakuru)

WITH Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' gaining traction among the masses, and Karnataka assembly elections just a few months away, fence sitters are silently making their choice.

Dissident JDS MLA S R Srinivas of Gubbi assembly seat joined the Yatra on Saturday. "He is likely to resign from his MLA post after December, as suggested by AICC general secretary and Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala," sources said.

Congress ticket aspirants for the 2023 assembly polls have been contributing to the success of the Yatra by mobilising people from their respective constituencies. As a result, the Yatra saw a turnout of over 50,000 people in a small town like Turuvekere. Ticket aspirants from Bengaluru, Hassan and other distant places had ferried their constituents in buses. "It is also one of the factors for the Yatra getting a good response," remarked a top leader.

As the AICC is closely monitoring the Yatra, leaders are doing their best to impress the party high command. Former minister K J George from Sarvagna Nagar assembly constituency has reportedly marshalled big crowds. Party general secretary KC Venugopal, who's keeping a close watch, is said to have rapped former ministers Zameer Ahmed Khan and Dr H C Mahadevappa for failing to mobilise people. It was after his warning that other leaders woke up and took the task seriously, a source said.

Meanwhile, some leaders from Dalit organisations, including Kunduru Muruli, previously with the JDS, also joined the Yatra voluntarily and showed up proudly with Rahul Gandhi. People from all walks of life, including local political leaders from in and around Turuvekere, regardless of party affiliation, turned up to watch the Yatra.

Cong on Bharat Odo Yatra: Kateel

DAVANAGERE: BJP state president Nalinkumar Kateel redicules Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's ambitious Bharat Jodo Yatra as Bharat Odo Yatra (running away from), and said the Grand Old Party's leaders should introspect on the division of the country soon after Independence.

YATRA PREPARATIONS IN FULL SWING IN CHITRADURGA

CHITRADURGA: Preparations are on to receive Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and others, who are part of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, at Harthikote in Chitradurga district where the first day of the Chitradurga leg of the yatra ends. Chefs to cook food for over 500 leaders and walkers arrived at the village on Saturday. Congress leader Kandikere Suresh Babu, who is looking after the arrangements, said Rahul will spend the night at a place on the outskirts of the village. District Food Safety and Standards Officer Dr Palaksha said that once the food is cooked, a special team of officers will visit the spot and check the quality of food. It will be served to Rahul only after it is certified by them. The FSSAI district team will also conduct a mahajar of the materials used to cook the food.w

Will take all communities into confidence on quota issue: CM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ASKED whether a constitutional amendment is needed to increase the quota beyond the 50 per cent limit set by the Supreme Court, he said the responsibilities of the executive and the legislature are different. "The state government will table the Bill in the next legislature session. Later, we will urge the Centre to pass a Bill for a constitutional amendment to expand the reservations to over 50 per cent under Schedule 9 of the Constitution," he added.

"We still need to discuss the reservation for OBCs, but the focus now is on increasing the quota for SC/STs," he said.

CM Basavaraj Bommai greets Valmiki Guru Peeta seer Prasannananda Puri in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

Asked whether it is to avoid the demand from other communities, he denied it and said the government cannot take a decision on reservation without a scientific study and in-depth reports. "There are vacancies in many departments that need to be filled. We are committed to empowering SC/STs," he added.

CM Basavaraj Bommai said that to give social justice to SC/STs who are deprived of opportunities, the state government will study the Justice AJ Sadashiva committee report on internal reservation. The government is planning a separate corporation for SC/STs. The Justice Nagamohan Das committee report also stresses on the reservation not reaching several weaker communities within SC/STs. "The government will decide on internal reservation based on the Justice Sadashiva committee report. We will take all communities within SC/STs into confidence," he added.

POLITICAL THEATRE

State Govt's reservation move just a gimmick: AAP

VIJAYAPURA: Terming the announcement of the BJP government to increase reservation for SC/STs as a gimmick, AAP's Karnataka campaign committee president **Mukhyamantri Chandru** asserted, "I challenge the Basavaraj Bommai government to get it implemented on the ground by the end of this year." Speaking to reporters here on Saturday, Chandru claimed, "I wonder why the party did not feel the need to increase the quota earlier. The decision has been taken when the Assembly elections are just a few months away. It is a mere political gimmick by the state government to consolidate its vote bank."

Arkavathy denotification scam case will be reopened: Kateel

DAVANAGERE: BJP state president Nalinkumar Kateel on Saturday said the government will reopen the Arkavathy Layout denotification scam case, which was allegedly buried by the then Siddaramaiah government. Kateel warned, "'Wait and watch, the scams from Siddaramaiah's tenure will be unravelled." The Congress is upbeat with the surfacing of the 40 per cent commission allegation made by Contractors' Association president Kempanna, and the 'PayCM' campaign that followed, targeting the BJP. The ruling party, in a bid to gear up for the 2023 polls, is making all efforts to save its image, and has accordingly decided to reopen the 're-do Arkavathy denotification' plan undertaken by former CM Siddaramaiah.

'Unpopularity of BJP govt feeding yatra's success'

KARTHIK K K @ Mysuru

POLITICAL analyst, social activist and president of Swaraj India Party **Yogendra Yadav**, who has joined the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra, shared his thoughts with The New Sunday Express on why this journey is important and how it will bring the country together to fight politics of hatred.

Yadav, who has been walking nearly 20 km every day for the last one month, said the yatra has shown the promise of challenging the dominant narrative and highlighting real issues bothering society.

Asked about nine days of the yatra in the state, he said, "We began with both expectation and apprehension. Expectation because this is the land that offers deepest intellectual, cultural and literary resources to combat the politics of hate. Apprehension because the reception in Kerala was so good and we were worried if Karnataka could match it. But it has turned out better than what I expected with noted writer Devanuru Mahadeva welcoming the yatra, many cultural icons expressing support and family members of Gauri Lankesh walking along," he said.

Asked if it will have any political implications in the state that is going for polls, he said, "Unpopularity of the BJP government is feeding the success of the yatra here. There is a to-and-fro effect here. Unpopularity of BJP is making the yatra a success and the success of yatra will make BJP much weaker. What matters to me is the resolve to take on politics of hatred for which Karnataka is made a prime laboratory. This needs to be defeated and if that means BJP losing in the election. nothing can be better than that."

Will tour state to rebuild party: Gowda

ENS @ Bengaluru

FORMER Prime Minister and JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda said he will continue to make all efforts to strengthen the regional party and bring it back to power in Karnataka.

"The JDS will again come to power in the state and Kumaraswamy will again become the CM. Let there be no doubt about it. I still have the energy to fight and will not allow any injustice to the state," Gowda said, at the JDS 'Janata Mitra' convention in Bengaluru. He was addressing a public meeting after three months. Gowda said once he recovers completely, he will visit all the districts. "We need to save the party. I have been asked to speak for only four minutes, but I will speak in detail (at the convention). I will also attend the party executive committee meeting."

Former PM HD Deve Gowda and former CM HD Kumaraswamy at the JDS Janata Mitra convention at National College Grounds in Bengaluru on Saturday | VINOD KUMAR T

For the past ten years, Kumaraswamy has been putting in a lot of effort to strengthen the party, Gowda said, adding that they have not done any injustice to any community, and took measures for the welfare of all communities.

Former chief minister H D Kumaraswamy slammed the Congress and BJP, blaming them for flooding, encroachment of lakes and stormwater drains in Bengaluru, and lack of proper health, housing and education systems. He accused the national parties of "looting taxpayers' money" and doing nothing for the development of Bengaluru.

Setback for Hiremath in defamation case

ENS @ Dharwad

SOCIAL activist S R Hiremath on Saturday suffered a big setback in a defamation case filed by Union minister Pralhad Joshi as the principal JMFC court of Dharwad rejected his plea to exonerate him from the case. The court had decided to continue hearing the case after listening to the arguments from both sides.

According to a release, a defamation case was filed in 2015, after Hiremath had levelled allegedly baseless charges against Joshi that he had grabbed Karnataka Gymkhana Ground and termed him a corrupt politician in the run-up to the 2019 General Election.

Gadag division of the North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation has ordered an inquiry against six officials in connection with distributing bus tickets bearing the emblem of Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC). It has also issued a notice to the private company that supplied ETM ticket rolls

Adani Ports seeks ₹78 crore relief for 54-day protest

12 barges on lease for construction of port

MANOJ VISWANATHAN @ Kochi

WITH the Church-led action council hardening its stand, Adani Ports, which is implementing the deep-sea Vizhinjam port project, has served a notice on the government seeking a compensation of ₹78.7 crore for the loss incurred due to the 54-day protest which has stalled construction works. Meanwhile, Minister for Ports Ahammed Devarkovil expressed confidence that the efforts to find an amicable solution to the protest will bear fruit soon.

"We are holding talks with the protesters on October 13 and I hope we can settle the issues through discussion. The court has also directed the protesters not to obstruct construction works. We want to resolve the issue and restart construction works immediately as the protest is denting the state's image. Many investors have come forward to invest in the state and the protest may discourage them," he told TNIE.

The government had organised an online meeting of investors last month in which representatives of 160 firms had participated. Two weeks ago, the minister held a meeting in Dubai where 100 investors attended and many of them were keen to invest in Kerala.

"We have to complete the Vizhinjam project as soon as possible which will have a positive impact on the development of the state," said minister.

Adani Group has taken 12 barges on lease from abroad for construction of the port. Though the works have been stalled, the barges were not demobilised hoping that the works will resume soon.

Sources said a shipping service operator in Dubai has expressed interest to operate service from Dubai to Kerala. This will be a big relief to NRKs working in the UAE as the budget airlines have imposed restrictions on carrying luggage. Kollam port will get the customs clearance facility soon and the plan is to start shipping services from Dubai to Kollam and Beypore.

The ports department has drawn up plans to encourage costal shipping service connecting Vizhinjam, Kollam, Kochi, Ponnani, Beypore and Mangaluru. Adani Group has said it will launch service from Vizhinjam to Mundra Port in Gujarat once the commercial operation starts.

The plan to open a cement terminal at Kollam port has been withheld due to protest and the department is exploring the possibility of opening the terminal at Ponnani. A detailed project report is being prepared for the Ponnani Cement Terminal.

Heavy rain lashes Visakhapatnam on Saturday | G SATYANARAYANA

Cyclonic circulation in Bay to bring heavy rain in TN

ENS @ Chennai

With a cyclonic circulation forming over central parts of south Bay of Bengal, the met office has forecast heavy rain in several parts of Tamil Nadu. The forecast for Sunday says heavy to very heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places over The Nilgiris, while heavy rain is likely in 23 other districts, including Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Tirupattur, Vellore, Ranipet, Tiruvannamalai, Kallakurichi, Cuddalore, Salem, Erode, Namakkal, Karur, Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Dindigul, Theni, Tiruchy, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai districts of Tamil Nadu and Karaikal. The rains are induced by thunderstorms and will be active till October 11. In Chennai, the sky is likely to be cloudy. Moderate rain with thunderstorm is likely to occur.

Warm welcome by TPCC leaves Kharge excited

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

IN sharp contrast to the welcome accorded to Shashi Tharoor, his main rival in the Congress presidential election, veteran leader Mallikarjun Kharge was accorded a rousing reception by the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) here on Saturday.

While Tharoor held a press conference in a hotel where he urged PCC delegates to support his candidature, top TPCC leaders -- A Revanth Reddy, N Uttam Kumar Reddy, K Jana Reddy, V Hanumantha Rao, Shabbir Ali, Ponnala Lakshmaiah, Ponnam Prabhakar, SA Sampath, Damodar Raja Narasimha and Mallu Ravi -- were among those who welcomged Kharge at the Indira Bhavan on Gandhi Bhavan premises on Saturday. Incidentally, none of these leaders had evinced interest in meeting Tharoor.

When this question was posed to Kharge, he said that he was "ghar ka aadmi" (a member of the family) of Telangana as his native place was part of the erstwhile Hyderabad State.

Later, addressing the press conference at Gandhi Bhavan, Kharge said that Congress delegates have been supporting him to uphold the party's ideology, fortify the party, and protect constitutional values and democracy. He said that he would implement the Udaipur declaration if he is elected the Congress president.

AICC presidential candidate Mallikarjun Kharge interacts with PCC delegates on Saturday

No let-up in fight against BJP

Stating that the election of the Congress president is a democratic process, Kharge wondered how the presidents of the BJP were elected. "How did Nadda, Amit Shah and Rajnath Singh become BJP chiefs?" he said. He said that if elected, he would continue a relentless fight like interim president Sonia Gandhi against the Narendra Modi got.

'KCR loved one, married another'

Reminding that at one point of time TRS supremo KCR had said he would merge his party into the Congress, Kharge said that the CM "loved one (Congress), and married another (BJP)", hinting that the pink party president was in an unofficial alliance with the saffron party. Kharge reminded the PCC delegates how Rao had changed his stance of merging his party into Congress soon after meeting UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi.

Dakshina Kannada Co-Op, Milk Producer's Union Ltd..
Kulshekar, Mangalore - 575005
Phone No : 0824-2230511, Fax: 2230029
IFT No/DKMU/ENGG/ CIVIL WORKS / 359 / 2022-23 Date: 06-10-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT

Tenders are invited for the following construction and Interior works at Mangalore Dairy under two bid (Technical and Commercial) systems through E-procurement portal of government of Karnataka.The Interested Contractors/Companies may apply through website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sl.No	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs)
1	Proposed Construction of quality control Lab and flooring works for Paneer packing section at Mangalore Dairy	14.10	35,250
2	Proposed Construction of Unreinforced cement concrete road from SFM to Boiler section side corridor of Mangalore Dairy	5.90	14,.750
3	Proposed Construction of Unreinforced cement concrete road from SFM to new proposed yard of Mangalore Dairy	64.60	96,900
4	Proposed Construction of Bitumen road from front side of Administrative building to Back side and vehicle parking area of Mangalore Dairy.	21.50	43,000
5	Proposed Extension of Dock at Front side of FGS Section of Mangalore Dairy	46.70	93,400

The last date for submission of bids is 20-10-2022 up to 4.00 PM
Date of opening of technical tender is on 21-10-2022 at 4:30 PM
Date of opening of Commercial tender : will be initiated later.
Item wise detailed Tender Form cost is as E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka. The Managing Director reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
Further details can be had form e-procurement website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.inHelpdesk**
Phone: 080-46010000/22631200and email : support@ihelpdsk.com .
Date: 06-10-2022
Place: Mangalore
Sd/-
Managing Director

Sree Charan Souhardha Co-Operative Bank Ltd.
Head Office #87/1, H.B.Samaja Road, Gandhi Bazar, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004.

POSSESSION NOTICE
See Rule 8(1) (For Immovable Property)

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Sree Charan Souhardha Co-Operative Bank Ltd, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financiat Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the power conferred under Section 13 (2) read with Rule 3 of the Security tnterest (Enforcement) Rules. 2002 has issued a Demand Notices calling upon the Borrowers! Mxrtgagorn / Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned In the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby goes to the borrower and Ihe public in general that the undersigned has taken possession ot the property described herein below in exercise of powers conte'red on him under Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 on below mentioned dates,
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Sree Charan Souhardha Co-Operative Bank Ltd., for an amount interest and Other Charges mentioned below.

(1) Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor: T.S. DATTATREYA, S/o T.S.Srinivasa Murthy, No.368, Varma Layout, Machohalli, Bapa Grama Post, Bengaluru-560091, the Sureties Mr.Nagabhushana T.S. S/o T.S.Srinivasa Murthy, No.369, Varma Layout, Machohalli, Bapa Grama Post, Bengaluru-560091, Mr. T.S.Vijay Kumar, S/o T.S.Srinivasa Murthy, No.368, Varma Layout, Machohalli, Bapa Grama Post, Bengaluru-560091, Smt.Hemaprabha S.D., W/o T.S.Dattatreya, No.368, Varma Layout, Machohalli, Bapa Grama Post, Bengaluru-560091.

Total amount mentioned in the notice: Rs. 25,35,069/- (Rupees Twenty-Five Lakhs Thirty-five Thousand Sixty-nine only) (IPL/20220002) as on 31.05.2022 and interest thereon.
Demand Notice Dated: 04.06.2022 Possession Notice Date: 03.10.2022

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the residential site bearing No. 164, Katha No.186, situated in Lakvinsar City, formed in Survey No.105/2A1, (renumbered after podification as 105/2A6, 2A8 and 2A16) of Bannikuppe Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District, vide conversion order No.BDS/ALN/SR 89/2004-05 dated 20.05.2005, and order No.BDS/ALN/SR 94/2004-05 dated 23.4.2005, issued by the Assistant Commissioner, Ramanagara Sub Division, Ramanagara District. PID NO. 152900400300402840. Admeasuring: East to West : 60 feet North to South : 40 feet In all measuring 2400 sq.ft., And bounded on the East by : Road West by : Site No. 177 North by : Site No. 163 South by : Site No. 165.

(2) Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor: MR. Nagabhushana T.S. S/o T.S.Srinivasa Murthy, No.369, Varma Layout, Machohalli, Bapa Grama Post, Bengaluru-560091, the Sureties Mr. T.S. Dattatreya, S/o T.S.Srinivasa Murthy, No.368, Varma Layout, Machohalli, Bapa Grama Post, Bengaluru-560091, Mr. T.S.Vijay Kumar, S/o T.S.Srinivasa Murthy, No.368, Varma Layout, Machohalli, Bapa Grama Post, Bengaluru-560091, Smt.Hemaprabha S.D., W/o T.S.Dattatreya, No.368, Varma Layout, Machohalli, Bapa Grama Post, Bengaluru-560091.

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Date : 03.10.2022
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Sree Charan Souhardha Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,

Govt divided society by renaming Tipu Express: MLC

ENS @ Mysuru

CONGRESS MLC D Thimmaiah on Saturday came down heavily on the Centre and the Railway Ministry over the renaming of the Tipu Express as Wadiyar Express.

Speaking to reporters here, Thimmaiah slammed the PM Narendra Modi government for allegedly dividing society in the name of religion.

"It is an unfortunate move and cannot be accepted. National parties like the BJP should not practise such politics in the name of religion. It is a mean act. Has the BJP achieved success by changing Tipu's name for the train? The government changed the name, though there was no demand from the public. They did it to incite hatred among religions," he claimed.

"There were lots of trains which were not named. Instead of renaming Tipu Express, the government should have renamed other trains after the erstwhile Mysuru royal family," he said.

He advised the BJP government to instead introduce programmes to address unemployment, price rise, protection to Dalits, and security to farmers.

STYLE AND POWER

Rowers in action during the Champions' League Boat Race on the Kochi backwaters on Saturday | TP SOORAJ

Social activist booked for morphed picture of cheetah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mangaluru

Mangaluru-based social activist Sunil Bajilakeri has been booked on the charges of the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act after he posted a morphed picture of a pregnant woman with a cheetah's head with a caption, 'when is the baby shower of the Namibia Cheetah', on social media.

Bajilakeri was apparently reacting to a social media post of the cheetah imported from Namibia being pregnant, a piece of news which had later turned false.

Meanwhile, when Bajpe police visited his place on Friday night in order to serve him a notice based on a complaint by a woman, Bajilakeri allegedly created a ruckus following which he was arrested. Urwa police booked him under IPC Section 353 (Assault or use of criminal force to deter a public servant from discharge of his duty). City Police Commissioner N Shashi Kumar said Bajilakeri was produced before a magistrate on Saturday which granted him bail. Bajpe Police have booked a case against him under IPC Section 153 (A) 505 (1)(B), 509 and section 6 of the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act.

DYFI DK district committee strongly condemned the arrest of Bajilakeri and accused the BJP government in the state of targeting him for 'exposing its anti-people policies and illegalities' in social media. Santosh Bajal, secretary, of Dakshina Kannada unit of DYFI said, "He has been posting write-ups and caricatures exposing the illegalities and injustices committed by MLAs D Vedavyas and Y Bharath Shetty. Hence the MLAs who are embarrassed by this have tried to shut his mouth with the arrest. The complaint against him has no proper basis."

EXPRESS READ

KSRTC accident prelim report on Monday

Palakkad: The preliminary probe report of the police of the accident involving the tourist bus and KSRTC bus which led to the death of nine people will be submitted in the high court on Monday. The high court had directed the investigation officer to appear in person in the case in which nine persons were killed in the accident which took place in Anchumoorthymangalam in Vadakkencherry on the Palakkad -Thrissur National Highway. ENS

Bank staffers divert funds to startups run by kin, pals

Malappuram: Police have intensified probe into the swindling of Rs 17 crore by an assistant manager at the Malappuram branch of Federal Bank. Police said the officer, Fazalu Rahman, 34, collected money mostly from NRI customers and transferred it to the account of a food-delivery startup run by one of his close relatives and a friend. "The assistant manager offered high returns to the customers by promising to invest their money in mutual funds," said police. ENS

No compensation, farmers lock up accountant for 7 hrs

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @ Gadag

RESIDENTS of Hombal village locked up the village accountant at the grama panchayat office for almost seven hours on Friday night for not releasing compensation for crop damages due to rain. They even accused him of releasing the amount to those who are cl ose to him. Hundreds of farmers have been waiting for compensation for the past many weeks. The GP has to credit the crop compensation amount to 3,180 bank accounts. But till Saturday, only 803 accounts received the amount and money should be credited to over 2,200 accounts. Many farmers requested village accountant for over one week to transfer the money but it has been delayed due to some technical glitch.

On Friday evening, some farmers visited the GP office and started arguing with village accountant Veerappa Danappagoudar. While the accountant was about to leave the office by 6 pm, they gheraoed him and locked up the office for around 7 hours.

Cong should have taken up Yatra in '47: Goa CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Udupi

IN a pointed attack against Congress over its Bharat Jodo Yatra, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said that the liberation of Goa would not have got delayed, had the Congress conducted Bharat Jodo Yatra in 1947.

Speaking to the media after visiting Sri Krishna Mutt here on Saturday Sawant said, "If the Yatra was conducted in 1947, Goa would have been liberated at least in 1950. Our freedom fighters had to fight against the Portuguese in 1955. Several freedom fighters even lost their lives during the fight. If the Yatra was held then, it could have been avoided. The whole of East India and entire Kashmir would have become an integral part of India."

Sri Vidyasagara Theertha Swamiji felicitates Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant in Udupi on Saturday | EXPRESS

He added, "Leaders from various political parties are joining BJP after realising the long-term vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. PM has been an inspiration to the country's youth and their dream of a new United Nations. The youth are joining hands to make PMs programmes like Clean India and Make in India successful. It is the same dream of New India that made political leaders from other parties a part of the BJP in Goa. This same magic may repeat in other parts of the nation too."

Paryaya Sri Krishnapura Mutt Seer Sri Vidyasagara Theertha Swamiji felicitated him.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that on behalf of our Client, we are investigating the title of **M/s. HINDUJA TRADING COMPANY,** a registered partnership firm, having its business office at No. 222/14, Gokaldas Chambers, 5th Main, Bellary Road, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru– 560 080 (hereinafter referred to as the **"Owner"**), in respect of the immovable properties being lands totally admeasuring an extent of **51,057.46** square feet, situated at 1st Main Road, CKC Garden and Mission Road, Sudhama Nagar Ward, Bengaluru – 560 027, which are more particularly described in the 'Schedule' hereunder and referred to herein collectively as the **"Schedule Properties".** The Owner has represented that it is the sole and absolute owner of the Schedule Properties having unrestricted rights of alienation over the same. The Owner has further represented that the Schedule Properties are free from all kinds of encumbrances, charges, lien, litigation and/ or any third-party rights/ claims of any nature whatsoever.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that all persons including individuals, Hindu undivided family, companies, banks, financial institution(s), non-banking financial institution(s), firms, association of persons or a body of individuals, whether incorporated or not, lenders and/ or creditors having any benefits, objection, demand, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of the Schedule Properties or any part or portion thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, charge, pledge, gift, trust, inheritance, succession, family arrangement/ settlement, bequest, possession, lease, tenancy, maintenance, easement, memorandum of understanding, license, share, assignment, lien, attachment, development rights, partnership, right of way, *lispendens*, decree or order of any judicial/ quasi-judicial authority, reservation, contracts/ agreement, power of attorney, option, FSI/ FAR consumption, right of first refusal, pre-emption or any liability or commitment or otherwise of any nature whatsoever, are hereby called upon to notify the same in writing, together with all details and original documents in support of such claim, to the undersigned at the address mentioned below within a period of **15 (Fifteen) days** from the date of this Notice, failing which, it shall be conclusively presumed and deemed that the aforesaid Owner has a clear and marketable title to the Schedule Properties and that none else have any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties; and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the proposed transaction in respect of the Schedule Properties on the basis that there are no objections and/or claims whatsoever with respect thereto. Any objections and/or claims received after the expiry of the period mentioned above shall neither be entertained nor shall be binding on our Client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

All that piece and parcel of the following immovable properties being lands totally admeasuring an extent of 51,057.46 square feet, equivalent to approximately 4,743.35 square meters, bearing Municipal Nos. 1, 2, 2/1 and 9, situated at 1st Main Road, CKC Garden; and Municipal Nos. 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75, situated at Mission Road, Sudhama Nagar Ward, Bengaluru – 560 027:

Municipal No.	PID No.	Street Name	Extent (in Square Feet)
1	48-38-1	1st Main Road, CKC Garden	4,864.65
2	48-38-2	1st Main Road, CKC Garden	5,069.00
2/1	48-38-2/1	1st Main Road, CKC Garden	4,582.81
9	48-38-9	1st Main Road, CKC Garden	1,375.00
70	48-50-70	Mission Road	20,906.00
71	48-50-71	Mission Road	5,520.00
72	48-50-72	Mission Road	5,520.00
73	48-50-73	Mission Road	1,610.00
74	48-50-74	Mission Road	805.00
75	48-50-75	Mission Road	805.00
		Total Extent	**51,057.46**

The aforesaid land parcels are compositely bounded as follows:
On the East by : Private Property;
On the West by : 1st Main Road;
On the North by : Mission Road; and
On the South by : 1st 'A' Cross Road.

C.R. Muralidharan, Partner
DUA ASSOCIATES
Advocates & Solicitors
130/1, 2nd Floor, Ulsoor Road, Bengaluru – 560 042.
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E-mail: murali@duaassociates.com
Place: Bengaluru
Dated: 09/10/2022

I really wanted to discover mummies, like Indiana Jones

Svante Pääbo

INDIA-UK TRADE DEAL: PAST MAKES FUTURE TENSE

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution, and Accidental India
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SUELLA Braverman, the Home Secretary of the United Kingdom, achieved her Andy Warhol moment. She acquired 15 minutes of fame unveiling a parade of shibboleths at a conference of the Tory party this week. Braverman said she obsessed, dreamed of a flight full of refugees being sent to Rwanda.

She didn't stop at that. In her aspiration to appease the parish of the prejudiced, she went further and declared she has "reservations" about Britain's trade deal with India as an open borders migration policy is not "what people voted for with Brexit." Her peeve is that "the largest group of people who overstay are Indian migrants." The Indian High Commission refuted the claim with a terse "India has initiated action on all cases raised".

In that Warhol moment, Braverman has put at peril the India-UK Free Trade Agreement. It's a deal UK Prime Minister Liz Truss and Trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch have been scrambling to clinch by Diwali. Typically of the post-Brexit milieu, Braverman is obviously not alone in harbouring illusions about Britain and its ability to define the contours of what constitutes free in a negotiated deal.

Facts allow a greater appreciation of this gap in cognition. The discussions on the India-UK FTA were initiated sometime in August 2021. The approach paper of the UK Government arguing for the FTA in January 2022 states, "The UK and India are the world's 6th and 5th largest economies, respectively." The rankings are now reversed. In the past few months, India has overtaken the UK to be the fifth largest economy.

The UK economy is in shambles. The large and unfunded fiscal package caused turmoil in the financial markets, traumatised pension funds, pushed debt to GDP ratio to 101 per cent. The growth plan has earned the sobriquet of "inept madness" from politicos, triggered a rebuke from the IMF and a downgrade from stable to negative by rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Fitch. In the past weeks, His Majesty's Pound has been pounded to a dollar and ten cents and the currency is forecast to slide to be on parity with the US Dollar.

The reality for Britain is lodged in the lament "True is it that we have seen better days" from 'As You Like It'. The European Union accounts for around 40 per cent of the UK's exports, and 45 per cent of its imports and – Brexit is yet stalled at the gates. Despite the "special relationship' the vaunted FTA with the United States is not visible on the horizon. With the current account deficit hovering around 8 per cent, access to the markets of the fastest growing economy is critical.

The 92-page approach paper makes a robust case for the FTA, which opens up access for UK businesses in the tech domain, financial services, including insurance, specialised education and for exports of goods ranging from automobiles to whisky. Indeed in the UK, the House of Lords International Agreements Committee welcomed the idea stating, "The potential economic benefits to the UK of a trade deal with India are higher compared to other post-Brexit agreements (with Australia, New Zealand and Japan) concluded to date."

For India the UK market arrives with the advantage of diaspora connect affording an opportunity to grow its exports in labour intensive sectors such as textiles as also for expanding the footprint of the IT services companies.

At a macro level India, the FTAs trigger the imperative for prospective planning for an economy expected to double in GDP in the decade.

That said, the economic potential is being stalled by classic pulpit politics. The report of the House of Lords International Agreements Committee is replete with sermonising text. It observes, "India has a notoriously difficult business environment— corruption levels are high, business permits are difficult to obtain, tax and customs processes are complex, levels of contract enforcement are low, and IP protections are limited." It also points out that the UK Government "has not been specific about the importance it will give to human, environmental and other rights and protections, nor (in most cases) about its red lines."

There is no disputing the challenges of operating in India. For sure, India will need to overcome political resistance to reform land, labour and contract laws, unclog regulatory cholesterol, invest in infrastructure, and enable ease of business with plug and play systems for investing companies.

The UK, on its part, will have to move beyond misplaced notions and enable the design of relaxed mobility rules, visa-free business travel and consistent and simplified routes for highly skilled workers.

India does need to expand trade for growth, but free trade cannot be a one way street. The very construct of a free trade agreement demands negotiated give and take located on agreed milestones. The biggest risk to the shared objective is not in the technicals but in the random rhetoric emanating from the chaos of politics in the UK.

It is up to the people of the UK and its government whether it wants to seize the moment or be a prisoner of the past. India and the world are moving on.

POLITICS AS A YATRA WITHOUT END

OPINION

SANTWANA BHATTACHARYA
Editor

FOR over a month now, a padayatra has been raising some dust on India's southern highways—and the dust has been billowing way beyond, right onto the political main street, to the high-decibel traffic junctions of national media, all the way to those buzzing social media bylanes. As these words are being written, Rahul Gandhi is walking in Mandya, southern Karnataka, with the air of a prince who has renounced the throne to rejoin the people—and is, thus, indifferent to power like all renunciates. Perhaps he is, perhaps not. If you put that to vote, the nays may have it.

Either way, no one will doubt that the Bharat Jodo Yatra is fundamentally a political yatra. And no consensus can be had on how successful it is proving to be. "Massive public response"? Or "damp squib"? Partymen are right to be enthused—being close to the people is, after all, the only way to do democratic politics, and there has been a severe deficit of that in the Congress of late. But the sceptics have good reason to be sceptical, too, given the party's state. In Indian democracy, the answer can only be a collective one, and we must await that.

And yet, judging by the sheer volumes of daily denunciations and words of belittlement, it seems to be setting off a kind of unexplained fear in rival camps. As if they are witnessing something primordial, something outside the playbook, something they potentially cannot control. What is the source of this fear? In a sense, it has nothing to do with the Congress per se. Nothing to do with Rahul or the state of Indian politics as it takes the bend for the home stretch to 2024.

It has to do with the idea of a padayatra itself. And a special form of this whose roots lie embedded in religion and spiritual practices. In the singular image of a pilgrim or spiritual mendicant, making his or her journey on foot, towards godhead or oblivion. In world cultures, India being an exemplary case, that act of humility has always encoded and granted a kind of grace—even a different kind of power, legitimacy and affirmation that cannot be thwarted. When a human being normally tied to a homestead leaves all that for a journey of the soul, even divinity is seen to be compelled to grant his or her wishes.

A military conquest is also a yatra. But of the other sort—directly related to territoriality. In the Ashvamedha Yagna, the journey itself maps all of the conquest. The wish fulfillment happens through force, it is not teased out of the cosmos. The history of Hinduism managed to blend both aspects with Shankaracharya—what he mapped out on foot was the span of a thought world, won via logic and tarka. Centuries later, Vivekananda was to do the same, with a spiritual journey shot through with the idea of nationhood. Already, one can see the religious beginning to form a chemical bond with the political.

It was Gandhi who turned it over unambiguously to the temporal world. His Salt March was enacted for a people. But no one could miss his ingenuity—what he was drawing on consciously, with the attire that could fit that of any ordinary Indian pilgrim, was that same reservoir of power. It spoke both to the people and to the oppressor. And a demand made thus, he knew, could not be thwarted. Thus he invented a new instrument of political action—and entered it forever into modern India's lexicon.

Later practitioners have been many, both high and low, grimy and subtle—and the results have been as mixed as the cast of characters. But each time the weapon is deployed, there seems to be a strong trace of an action that wills itself to be successful. Vinoba Bhave did it with his Bhoodan movement: it did reap a harvest, even if it was, by general consensus, somewhat patchy. The Janata politician Chandra Shekhar did it memorably, in 1983, and even in an evolving polity, it lent him a certain aura that carried him to the pinnacle, albeit briefly. Even YSR did one, and in the wrestling-pit of satraps that Andhra Pradesh used to be, it elevated him.

The real efficacy of this instrument is seen when the people wield it themselves. Witness the Kisan Long March of 2018. As thousands of earth-coloured, sunburnt feet poured into Mumbai after 200 km on the road, the universal reception was one of awe and reverentiality. The Devendra Fadnavis government, which may have thought little of dispersing another form of protest out in the hinterland, had to treat this ultimate symbol of India—the poor farmer—with respect and submit to the demands. That this promise was reneged on is another matter. During UPA-II, the government panicked as an adivasi march wended its way to Delhi, and Jairam Ramesh rushed out half-way to meet them and persuade them to stop. Just two months ago, a Dalit yatra from Gujarat, headed to Rashtrapati Bhavan with a 10-tonne bronze coin with Ambedkar's image engraved on one side, was stopped by the government at Rewari, Haryana. All they wanted was for the coin, minted with contributions from ordinary Dalits, to be placed in Parliament. A mass of the fabled 'last Indians' actually reaching Delhi from their humble abodes is something to be feared by all governments. It is as if their legitimacy is generated from some unseen reservoir—and cannot be thwarted. Whichever government it is, it appears, the only way to handle people on a journey to political selfhood is to feint or block.

There was another political actor who forged his politics on the road. This was Kanshi Ram, who, as the founder of BAMCEF, gave flesh and blood to his dream by cycling through countless villages. He was, of course, enacting, in physical space, what Ambedkar had done in a journey of the mind. All real journeys, after all, are conducted in an inner space. Advani's rath yatra, that other epoch-changing yatra of our times, was, by contrast, more in the nature of a Reconquista—a reclamation project. The question Rahul might want to ask himself is: which road does he wish to take? A pre-charted highway? Or a life defined as an endless road to the countless Bhatta-Parsauls out there?

AMBEDKAR, THAROOR, AND DISSIDENCE

OPINION

C P SURENDRAN
Poet, novelist, and screenplay writer. His latest novel is One Love and the Many Lives of Osip B

BARELY two months after his rebirth as a Buddhist at Nagpur on October 16, 1956, Dr B R Ambedkar died of a heart attack on December 6. Born as a Dalit, his titanic war against caste discrimination finding closure with his taking refuge in the Buddha must have released in him the pent-up tension of a lifetime and perhaps mentally prepared him for his death. When at its most wound up, a spring can only uncoil.

A prolific writer himself, Ambedkar's life is an industry now. There are hundreds of books on him. And the latest on the subject is by Shashi Tharoor (Ambedkar, A life), a warm and highly readable evaluation of a great Indian leader-and rebel.

This note is not a review of Tharoor's book. It is a glance, caused by reading it, at the value and problem of dissent at the innermost circle of Independence politics offered by a man who, in the end, was not happy with the Constitution he authored or the country that he intimately fought against if only for its greater destiny.

Ambedkar will be even more written about as October 16 and December 6 approach. Close to seventy years after his death, Indian political parties though still vying with each other to appropriate him, have no idea how to accommodate the heroic spirit of (his) dissidence. This aspect, the aspect of individualism in public life, neither the BJP nor the Congress is equipped to meet. This is an acquired drawback of Indian democracy.

It is one of those ironies that Tharoor himself is facing some kind of conversion on October 16 when the election for the AICC presidency takes place. He, like his great subject, is a dissident. Except Tharoor disguises it well in intellectual fineries. In the best and truest sense, Tharoor is not a Congressman, though he has won his parliamentary seat on the party ticket from Trivandrum thrice in a row.

One of the main reasons for Ambedkar's apprehensions regarding democracy in India was that our social structure is 'incompatible with parliamentary democracy.' By social structure, he meant the varna theory and the politics and grief associated with casteism.

To a great extent, the worst of that social structure has given way to greater inclusion. In the choice of India's president to quota reservations and cultural awards and national honours, the 'depressed classes' have a greater share now than in Ambedkar's times. The Group is better off.

But how many outspoken Dalit individuals do we hear about besides those who do well in competitive examinations? Their integration has been at the expense of individualism. If Ambedkar were alive and well now, he would still be rebelling against powerful, oppressive group formations. In his time, it was Congress, representing the oppressed and, curiously, at the same time, the rich and the powerful. That mantle has now fallen on the BJP. Neither party knows what to do with individual dissidence besides extinguishing it.

The crowning achievement of Ambedkar's career is widely seen to be the authoring of the Indian Constitution, a handiwork which he later disowned in the Rajya Sabha in an 'ill-tempered and emotional speech' that Tharoor quotes in his book: 'People always keep on saying to me, "Oh! you are the maker of the Constitution." My answer is I was a hack. What I was asked to do, I did much against my will. Sir, my friends tell me that I made the Constitution. But I am quite prepared to say that I shall be the first person to burn it out. I do not want it. It does not suit anybody."

Apart from the fact that words like these, if spoken now, would spell immediate trouble and, therefore, indicate the state of free speech in India, the outburst is a true measure of the man: Ambedkar did not observe decorum. When he was pissed off, he was pissed off. And he remained pissed off to the last. In the interviews he gave to the BBC and others, he is almost contemptuous of the credentials of Indian democracy and Mahatma Gandhi. His cynicism goaded him to challenge the Establishment and often disprove it to improve it. It is precisely this, too, that the Establishment continues to ignore in appropriating him.

The separate electorate that Ambedkar wanted for Dalits would have come to fruition and ended up dividing the Hindu society had he not given in to the will of Mahatma Gandhi. Given his unique sensibility, he suspected that the ultimate Hindu, the Hindu to end all Hindus was not, say, a Savarkar but Mahatma Gandhi. Recall often Mahatma Gandhi described himself as a 'sanatani Hindu'; he thought the Gita was his 'eternal mother,' and he swore by the varna theory.

A very astute leader like Prime Minister Narendra Modi owns up Mahatma Gandhi and his legacy at the expense of almost everyone else of the Nehruvian stock and tradition because the Mahatma was the closest the RSS could aspire to outside the RSS.

In 'What the Congress & Gandhi have done to the Untouchables, Ambedkar writes: 'Much is written about the Congress, far more about Mr Gandhi. But no one has so far told the story of what they have done about the Untouchables …' The reason why Mahatma Gandhi' bared his fangs' to Ambedkar, of course, is that he did not want Dalits to exit from the Hindu fold. And only one man could point his finger at the Father of the Nation and tell it as it is: Ambedkar.

As Congress founders and the BJP entrenches its position, one wishes for a rebel hero like Ambedkar. Because it is from his revolt that his people and the country have benefited the most. There is value to dissidence. But it is fast becoming an extinct tradition in Indian politics.

(cpsurendran@gmail.com)

QUOTE CORNER

First time since the Cuban missile crisis, we have a direct threat of the use nuclear weapon... I don't think there's any such thing as the ability to easily (use) a tactical nuclear weapon and not end up with Armageddon.

Joe Biden, President of the United States

If it is my last World Cup? Yes, surely yes, surely yes. I feel good physically, I can have a very good preseason this year that I hadn't done the year before because of how everything went, training late, playing without rhythm, with the tournament already started, and then I went to the national team...

Lionel Messi, Argentine footballer

We will get an opportunity to spend a few days and sessions in Perth... Australia is quite unique in terms of the pace and bounce on those wickets and a lot of our players have not played a lot of T20 cricket in Australia

Rahul Dravid, Team India head coach

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Remembering Gandhi

Apropos of Gandhi and the mango tree (Oct 8). It is heartening to learn from the reminiscences of the writer that Gandhiji lives very much in the memory of South Africans. To enable the present and future generations of India to understand the true Gandhian philosophy it is necessary to educate them that Gandhiji during his lifetime uniquely put in place the intellectual,emotional and physical processes with regard to truth and non-violence. It is a happy coincidence that the mango celebrated as "Gandhi manga" in Payyanur - mango of the Father of the Nation- is also the National fruit of India.

N Rama Rao, Chennai

Indian abstention

The abstention of India from the voting on the west-sponsored resolution condemning China on the issue of violation of human rights against Uighur Muslims in the Xinjiang province of China is difficult to appreciate. India seems to soft-pedal when it comes to condemning China on any issue. Is this because we fear that country? Abstention in such a situation amounts to indirectly supporting that country and its violation of human rights. China itself opposes India in its dispute with Pakistan and supports it when it comes to the issue of J&K. it is a fact that there is large-scale violation of human rights in Xinjiang province against the Uighur Muslims.

K.R.Jayaprakash Rao, Mysuru

EC and freebies

This is with reference to "EC can't be dragged into political realm"(Oct 8). Former CEC Quraishi is on the dot that EC is not the arbiter of freebies offered by the candidates of various political parties at the time of election . Former SC Chief Justice has rightly avoided to take up this vexatious issue and asked EC to explore avenues to prevent freebies. Quraishi hinted this must be discussed in parliament and state assemblies and not by any other body. It is amply clear that Stalin , Kejriwal and Jaganmohan Reddy and their ilk can promise everything free under the sky to the voters to come to power and are not answerable to anyone about economic implications. It's all beating around the bush and none willing to bell the cat of populism.

Parthasarathy Mandadi, Tirupati

Aimless yatra

Apropos of the editorial, Big ideas, call for action missing from Bharat Jodo Yatra (Oct 8). The yatra is an aimless program of Rahul Gandhi. Money and manpower do nothing to BJP. And criticising Narendra Modi will do more harm than good. Still he has not attained maturity because he opposes ideas and goals. By dining and holding hands with the downtrodden are for exhibition only. No paid media can change the mindset of the countrymen.

Asokakumar, Thrikkunnapuzha

Congress gimmick

This has reference to captioned editorial (Oct 8). National scenario presently witnesses Congress party's 'Bharath Jodo Yatra' led by senior leader Rahul across India which is nothing but political gimmicks by Congress for survival in politics in the era dominated by PM Narendra Modi. In fact, the dynamic PM is the saviour who can provide stable and powerful central government unlike the unstable or weak coalition governments of opposition parties.

Jayashree Thampi,Thiruvananthapuram

KCR's national party

The moment KCR announced formation of a national party, his decision was recieved with mixed response. KCR's decision is based on some solid groundwork he did since quite some time. After Telangana was formed and during his two terms as CM he has delivered quite tangibly in sectors related to power, water, agriculture and infrastructure to cite a few instances. It is this confidence which made him think of replicating Telangana model in all other states.

D Nagarjuna, Hyderabad

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Kapil Sibal @KapilSibal
Naya Bharat: Achievements: rising ` at 82, poverty, unemployment; and crimes against women, Dalits, minorities. But you are still selling dreams!

Manoj Kumar Jha @manojkjhadu
The 'sources' show that the rupee has not fallen, but is moving towards achieving a better balance in the national interest against the dollar

Tejashwi Yadav @yadavtejashwi
My tributes to revered Padma Bhushan Ramvilas Paswan ji, who fought for rights and social justice of the underprivileged, on his death anniversary

Shah-led panel for Hindi in all institutions

Committee of Parliament on Official Language wants Hindi as medium in technical and non-technical institutes

PARVEZ SULTAN @New Delhi

THE Committee of Parliament on Official Language headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah has recommended that the medium of instruction should mandatorily be Hindi in all technical or non-technical educational institutions including central universities.

In its 11th volume of the report presented to President Droupadi Murmu last month, the Committee states that English should be the medium of instruction only where it is absolutely necessary and gradually English should be replaced with Hindi in those institutions. "Use of Hindi as medium of instruction and other activities should be Hindi in all technical and non-technical institutions in the country and use of English should be made optional," the committee has recommended.

Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of management (IIMs), and All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) are some technical educational institutions under the Central government while Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs), Navodaya Vidyalayas (NVs) and central universities fall under the category of non-technical institutes.

The Committee noted that Hindi can't be a common language unless the medium of instruction is not Hindi in universities, higher educational institutions including technical or medical institutes.

The Committee was set up in 1976 under the Official Language Act, 1963. The panel comprises 30 members of Parliament; 20 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha. It reviews the progress made in the use of Hindi for official purposes and submit a report to the President making recommendations.

Hindi medium of instruction in training institutes, elimination of compulsory English-language question paper in the recruitment examinations, and adequate arrangement for Hindi translation of all relevant high court orders for the option of high court proceedings in Hindi are among 112 recommendations made by the Committee in its latest report.

"In many recruitment examinations, Hindi medium option is not available and English-language question paper is compulsorily included. In this situation, the candidate gives preference to English over Hindi. Therefore, mandatory English-language question papers should be discontinued and Hindi options be given... requisite knowledge of Hindi for the selection of employees should be ensured and in the recruitment examinations, the question paper of Hindi should mandatorily be included in place of English," the report stated. The Committee also noted in the report that officers and employees, who deliberately don't work in Hindi, should be warned. "The Committee has found that some officers or employees don't work in Hindi. So those officials should be given a warning and an explanation should be sought from them. If satisfactory reply is not received, it should be recorded in their Annual Performance Assessment Report (APAR)," it states.

Discussing recruitment examinations for government jobs, the report says that compulsory English-language question papers give the impression that English is more important, and so, they ought to be replaced by Hindi-medium papers. "It is mandatory to work in Hindi in the institutions of the Goverment of India. In such a situation, the necessity of knowledge of Hindi is important at the time of selection of employees. Therefore the committee recommends that the knowledge of Hindi should be ensured for the selection of employees," it says.

Other recommendations

If Hindi posts remain unfilled for more than three years, the head of the organisation should be held responsible. This should be recorded in Annual Performance Assessment Report (APAR) of the official

Given the popularity of Hindi due to globalisation and liberalisation, it should be made India's official language at the United Nations

High court proceedings in Hindi in states under region **'Ka' (A)***. English translation should be made available in case of constitutional requirements

*All states and union territories are divided in three groups (regions) on the basis of progressive usage of the language. **Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi NCR, and Andaman Nicobar Islands are in region 'A'**

Invitation cards, speeches and anchoring in Hindi in every Government programmes

Ensure training and training material in Hindi medium in institutions, where Hindi is not available. If obligatory, then there should be use of mixed language

Regular report pertaining to work done in Hindi should be from embassies or missions and organisations in foreign countries

DATTAREYA HOSABALE

PRACHARAK WHO SEEKS VICTORY OVER POVERTY

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@New Delhi

SOURAV ROY

PLAIN speaking has been his forte even if what he says on public platforms lends fodder to Modi baiters. Said to be close to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and poised to become the next Sarsanghchalak (chief) of BJP's ideological progenitor the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Sarkaryavah (General Secretary) of the Sangh — Dattatreya Hosabale — in a webinar organised on October 2 by the affiliate Swadeshi Jagran Manch (SJM) flagged issues of poverty, unemployment and inequality in the country even after 75 years of Independence.

Hosabale's speech, which grabbed national headlines with Congress leader Jairam Ramesh attributing it to the impact of the grand old party's Bharat Jodo Yatra was tempered down by the Sarsanghachalak Mohan Bhagwat during his Dussehra speech three days later in which he called upon the youth to become entrepreneurs rather than job seekers. But Hosabale's indictment of the Indian economy has become the subject of interest for those, who are beginning to read in between the lines and the growing divide between the guru (RSS) and shishya (BJP) in the gurukul of Indian politics. There are rumours that the two are not on the same page on the direction the economy is taking. But any talk of open rift is struck down by either side. But Hosabale's averments are being interpreted as cautionary missives to the BJP by the astute Sangh that the way to Hindu Rashtra is through economic recovery, and that it is incumbent upon the mentor to veer the satrap towards course correctness before its too late for 2024. When Hosabale equated poverty with rakshas, he hit the bull's eye in conveying it to Modi government that it would remain the biggest Lakshman Rekha towards Ramrajya for the 20 crore odd poor in the country.

NEWSMAKER

Born in a family of RSS activists in Shivamogga district in Karnataka in 1954, Hosabale is said to be a keen observer and believes that "participation of noble minds in society must increase." He continues to stress that inequality in society must be dealt with strong steps of empowerment through "sab ka saath" for "sab ka vikas" with "sab ka vishwas" (equal partnership and empowerment through trust of all.)

Hosabale was elevated as Sarkaryavah RSS (the second highest post after RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat) in 2021. Jailed for protesting against injustice perpetuated during the Emergency from 1975 to 1977 under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) for 16 months, Hosabale learnt the hard-facts of life during his imprisonment. It brought him closer to common man's issues. He brings the facts to the fore unmindful of the political consequences and controversy thereafter.

A post-graduate in English literature, his belief rests on "pair dharti par, nazar logo par aur vichar samaj me parivartan lane ka" (Foot always on the ground, focus on the people and thinking of always to bring changes in society)," remarked one of his close associates. Hosabale's stint with the ABVP brought him into the limelight of the parivar. He is credited with setting up the Youth Development Centre in Assam and has co-authored a book on 'Hindutava and Hindu-Rashtra' with Dr Krishna Gopal. Hosabale is a staunch advocate of farmers.

"One cannot eat computers and chips. Farmers deserve more respect," he spoke in July this year drawing the attention of the BJP bruised by the farmers agitation and the recall of the farmers' bill, which had left it red-faced.

Hosabale is of the opinion that there should be more focus on industrialisation in rural areas to prevent migration. Fluent in Kannada, Hindi, English, Marathi, and Sanskrit, he is working for the outreach of the RSS across the country before the Sangh's centenary celebrations in 2025. "For us, every unit — community, village, janpad (district), nation, world and finally universe is a family," he claims whenever he comes across a question on the RSS and the idea of Bharat.

Snag in Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat, travellers shifted to Shatabdi

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @New Delhi

INDIA'S indigenously-built first semi-high-speed Vande Bharat trains are in news for wrong reasons for past three days. After two recent reported incidents of cattle hitting the train in Mumbai-Ahmedabad region on Thursday and Friday, the rake of Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat train on Saturday developed an abrupt jam in its wheels due to a technical glitch in its bearing in the 'Traction Motor'(TM) of C-8 coach.

According to sources, the New Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat train developed the defect near Khurja in UP between Dankaur and Wair stations on Saturday.

The defect in the bearing of traction motor halted the train for four hours. Later, the passengers of Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat train were shifted to Shatabdi express at Khurja station and sent to their destinations.

Halted for hours

The defect in the bearing of traction motor halted the train for four hours. Later, the passengers of Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat train were shifted to Shatabadi express at Khurja station and sent to their destinations

As soon as the news of the defect was reported to the ministry, the entire lot of railway officials of concerned zone went into a tizzy.

"It is the third consecutive incident of disruption reported in the operations of the train in the past three days," remarked a senior railway official, preferring anonymity.

Acting swiftly, the team of technical experts of railways reached the spot and rectified the defect occurred in the train. But, due to the development of a flat tyre of 80mn, the train was further moved at the restricted speed of 20kmph to Khurja. The railway sent a replacement rake from New Delhi. A joint team of six officuals of Northern Railway and the North Central Railway has been assigned with the task of taking details of failure from the rake after the train was taken back to the maintenance department.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had flagged off this the second New Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat express train on February 15 in 2019 for inaugural run. The first commercial run of the New Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat train had started on February 17 on the Delhi-Varanasi rote via Kanpur and Prayagraj. The first Vande Bharat train runs between New Delhi and Katra.

2 Collegium members 'agree' to pick CJI-proposed judges

SHRUTI KAKKAR @New Delhi

AMIDST the government initiating the process of writing to incumbent CJI UU Lalit to name his successor and the split within the Collegium with regards to the proposal to recommend four new judges to top court via written note rather than a formal meeting, two judges of the Collegium, according to sources, have now given their consent to Lalit's proposal.

The names recommended by Lalit to the four other members are three sitting HC chief justices (Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice Ravi Shankar Jha, Patna High Court Chief Justice Sanjay Karol, Manipur High Court Chief Justice P V Sanjay Kumar) and Senior Advocate K V Viswanathan. If appointed, Senior Advocate KV Vishwanathan would go on to become the CJI in August 2030 if his name is recommended by the Collegium and cleared by the government.

As reported by this paper on October 7, Lalit earlier this week had written to the members of collegium again, requesting reconsideration of their position. The second note was written in response to two Collegium members expressing strong reservations and arguing that appointment to the high constitutional office and as judges of the highest court should never be done through circulation. According to the reports, the two members had only objected to the manner in which the recommendations were initiated and not to the merits of the individuals recommended. A fourth judge reportedly was away and had said that he would respond when he returned. The proposal to seek consent of fellow members in writing was set into motion after Lalit in an unprecedented move had written to the fellow members in the collegium Justices DY Chandrachud, SK Kaul, S Abdul Nazeer and KM Joseph. The letter which was received by the judges on October 1 according to people aware of the development pointed out that the four names that were being proposed were deliberated upon in previous collegium meetings.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

SC acquits man awarded death for rape

Opining that the prosecution did injustice by fixing culpability on a man without a shred of evidence, SC recently acquitted a man who was sentenced to death by Sessions Court and Allahabad High Court for rape and murder of a six-year-old girl. The SC bench said, "By not conducting the investigation properly, the prosecution has done injustice to the family of the victim. By fixing culpability upon the appellant without any shred of evidence, the prosecution has done injustice to the appellant."

Hearing on Hinduvtva leader's jibe tomorrow

The SC will hear on Monday a contempt plea by Activist Shachi Nelli against Hindutva leader Yati Narsinghanand over his abhorrent remarks against the SC and Constitution. Nelli's plea which has been filed pursuant to receipt of ex-A-G KK Venugopal's consent in January 2022 will be heard.

Talaq plea slated for hearing tomorrow

The Supreme Court will hear on Monday a plea by a woman from Karnataka seeking to declare "All forms of Unilateral Extra-Judicial Talaq including Talaq-E-Kinaya and Talaq-E-Bain" as void and unconstitutional for being arbitrary in nature and not seeking women side.

Offer of ₹300 cr bribe: CBI records statement of former J&K governor

AMIT MUKHERJEE @New Delhi

FORMER Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Satyapal Mallik appeared before the CBI mid-last week to depose in connection with the two graft cases registered in April this year, based on bribery allegations to the tune of ₹300 crores levelled by him.

The agency officials recorded Malik's statement in connection with the two bribery cases registered in J&K, based on his complaint that he was approached by private parties to get two files cleared for which he was offered an alleged bribe of ₹300 crore.

The incident happened between August 23, 2018 and October 30, 2019, when Malik was the governor of J&K. In his complaint Malik had mentioned that he was approached by two private entities — one associated with a well-known corporate house and the other with well-placed political connections to get two files cleared. The files were pertaining to awarding of contract for a group medical insurance scheme for government employees and civil work worth ₹2,200 crore related to the Kiru hydro-electric power project in the erstwhile state.

Malik had made the disclosure at a gathering during an event in Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan in October last year following which the CBI in April this year registered the two FIRs in connection with bribery allegations levelled by Malik.

The Rajasthan incident was reported in the media where Malik was quoted alleging that two files came to him for clearance, one belonging to Ambani and another to an RSS-affiliated man who was a minister in the previous Mehbooba Mufti-led PDP-BJP coalition government and claimed to be very close to the Prime Minister.

He told the gathering that secretaries of the two relevant departments told me that he would get ₹150 crore each for clearing the files to which he responded by saying "I have come with five kurta-pyjamas and will leave with that only." He later informed the gathering that he cancelled both the deals after the secretaries alerted him that there was a scam.

Malik appeared before the CBI after his five years tenure as Governor ended on October 4. He was appointed as Governor of Bihar in 2017 after which he was sent to Jammu and Kashmir in 2018 where he oversaw the revocation of Article 370 in August 2019. Malik, who had criticised the Centre during farmers' agitation, was moved to Meghalaya where his five-year tenure ended this month.

CLARIFICATION

No shortage of pneumococcal vax: Ministry

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE Union Health Ministry on Saturday said there is no shortage of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) in the country and reports claiming its shortfall is "false and misleading."

The PCV is "now an integral part of India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) and is available free of cost to the entire birth cohort of 27.1 million," the ministry said in a statement.

The ministry's response was to a media report claiming that there is a shortage of PCV.

Noting that the report is "ill-informed," the ministry said over 70.18 lakh doses are available with states and union territories. The report quoted health officials stating that a tendering delay has led to the disruption in pneumococcal vaccination schedules of tens of thousands of children across the country for over a month.

Shah promises flood-free Assam in next 5 years at Guwahati rally

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday promised that Assam would be made flood-free in five years.

"In our Assam election manifesto, we had promised an insurgency, agitation and flood-free Assam. We've achieved success in the first two. Give us five more years and we will make Assam flood-free," he said at a mammoth rally of BJP workers in Guwahati.

The BJP has been in power in Assam since 2016. By seeking five more years, he sought the third term for the party.

Shah said the Assam government in coordination with the centrally-funded North Eastern Council, of which he is the chairman, was preparing an ambitious project to solve the flood problem. He discussed the issue at a meeting with Sarma and senior government officials on Friday evening.

He was confident the project, once implemented, would make the perennial Assam floods a thing of the past. The Narendra Modi government is committed to making Assam flood-free, he said. It was learnt the Assam government is considering rejuvenating and protecting the wetlands. The idea is to increase their holding capacity and make them storage reservoirs during the floods.

There has been an exponential increase in the frequency of flood events in Assam since 2010. Altogether 196 people had lost their lives in the rain-induced floods and landslides this year. Shah outlined the BJP's achievement in Assam and the Northeast over the past eight years under the Modi government. He claimed the BJP established peace and accelerated the pace of development.

"Before 2014, the youth in the Northeast would roam about with guns. There used to be different kinds of agitations, bandhs. These impeded development. Under Modiji's leadership, we signed various accords and they helped establish peace," Shah said.

Home Minister Amit Shah chairs a meeting with CMs, Chief Secretaries and Director Generals of Police of all North Eastern States on 'Drug Trafficking and National Security' in Guwahati on Saturday

POLL: ROLL CALL

Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief Vikar Rasool Wani asked the young cadre on Saturday to work hard for strengthening the organisation in the UT, promising special roles for them in next Assembly polls

12 HELD FOR DUPING PEOPLE BY FROM FAKE WEBSITES OF REPUTED FIRMS

Ahmedabad	32	24	Mumbai	31	25
Bhopal	28	23	Panaji	30	24
Jaipur	27	23	Patna	33	25
Amritsar	35	20	Lucknow	31	25
Chennai	30	26	Port Blair	29	25
Kolkata	34	26	Imphal	29	19
Srinagar	28	20	Chandigarh	30	23

Soaring high: Top students enjoy chopper ride in C'garh

I belong to Gumiyabeda in Abujhmad (south Bastar). Our forested village does not get even adequate sunlight. But today the chief minister offered me an opportunity to fly in a chopper

Devanand Kumti, Student

Meritorious school students who enjoyed the helicopter ride organised for them by the Chhattisgarh government on Saturday | EXPRESS

Chopper ride for over 100 students

The students had figured in the merit list of Class 10 and 12 exam results declared by Chhattisgarh Board of Secondary Education. "We shortlisted 125 students. The families of 119 children gave their consent, while the others were away," Alok Shukla, principal secretary, school education department, said.

EJAZ KAISER @Raipur

THEY passed the Class 10 and 12 exams with flying colours. Their spirits already soaring after being among the best performers in the state, students in Chhattisgarh found themselves on cloud nine on Saturday. Quite literally.

As a reward for their performance and to laud their achievement, the state government organised free helicopter rides for the top scoring students. With each trip lasting 15 minutes, the 7-seater chopper took the students through a thrilling experience as they admired the views of Raipur from a height.

"It was no less than an amazing dream for me," said Devanand Kumti, who stood as the topper among students belonging to primitive tribal groups in the state. Kumti had scored 90 per cent marks in the exam. "I belong to Gumiyabeda in Abujhmad (south Bastar). Our village does not get even adequate sunlight. But today the chief minister offered me an opportunity to fly in a chopper," a delighted Kumti added.

Agreed Anjum, another top scorer in Class 10 exam. "We were so excited to be called for this experience. It was a wonderful and never-to-be-forgotten occasion," she said.

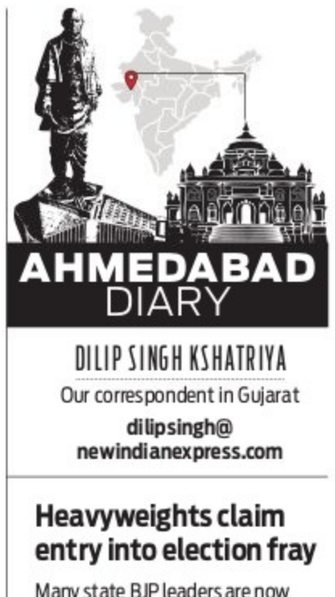
The students had figured in the merit list of Class 10 and 12 examination results declared by the Chhattisgarh Board of Secondary Education.

"We shortlisted 125 students from across Chhattisgarh. The families of 119 children gave their consent, while the remaining students were away from the state," Alok Shukla, principal secretary, school education department, told this newspaper. "The take-off and landing of the chopper, which was hired from a private charter service, took place at the police parade ground in Raipur," he added.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had in April announced free chopper rides for the Class 10 and 12 students who secure excellent marks, with an aim to motivate pupils to work hard and perform their best.

Shreya Pandey from Dhamtari district, who got the sixth rank in the Class 12 merit list, said that the initiative is an excellent incentive to inspire students to give their best.

The state aviation department will submit the bills for the expense, likely to be commercial rates, on the rides to the school education department. Chhattisgarh government is not left with any helicopter after its Augusta Westland AW-109 crashed while landing on the runway at Raipur airport on May 12.



DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
Our correspondent in Gujarat
dilipsingh@newindianexpress.com

Heavyweights claim entry into election fray

Many state BJP leaders are now claiming that they will seek the ticket for Assembly elections even as Gujarat BJP chief CR Patil continues to believe that he remains the show-runner. The most recent is former cabinet minister and Patidar leader Jayesh Radadiya. Recently in Jetpur in Rajkot, MLA Jayesh Radadiya indirectly hinted that he will enter poll fray. According to hearsay, Radadiya is support by none other than PM Modi. Sources said that on October 11, Modi will address a public rally in Rajkot, while it is worth mentioning that this meeting in Radadiya's stronghold is maybe clear indication that his chances for candidacy are certain.

CR Patil takes U-turn on his statement

Gujarat BJP president CR Patil has turned around on his vow to keep out of ticket allocation for the Assembly polls. A few days ago Patil tried to save face and asked supporters to not worry about who gets the ticket. "That will be decided by PM Modi and Amit Shah. I don't have the power," Patil said. He has now taken a U-turn on his earlier statement as the long line of ticket seekers behind Patil waned. To thwart the perplexity, Patil, has hinted that top youth leaders Alpesh Thakor and Dilip Thakor will be fielded from Randhanpur and Chansama respectively. This reversal may have led at least some to think that he's still in control.

Priyanka in place of Rahul for campaign?

Gujarat Congress has intensified its preparation for Assembly polls with discussions going on over the party's campaign. Seniors are apparently claiming that this time Priyanka Gandhi will lead from front instead of Rahul. Sources said that the former party chief will have to miss the campaign trail as he is busy with Bharat Jodo Yatra. Rahul has travelled about 700 km so far and has reached Karnataka. The Yatra will pass through Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan in the coming days. Meanwhile, stage is set in Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat for elections.

What's the hurry: Uddhav camp to EC over symbol

Ex-CM's faction seeks time as Shinde-led group is not fighting Andheri East bypoll

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

THE **Uddhav Thackeray**-led Shiv Sena on Saturday asked the Election Commission why it is in such a hurry to take a decision over the party's bow and arrow symbol. Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde's faction is not going to contest the by-polls for the Andheri-East Assembly seat, scheduled to take place on November 3, the former CM-led group argued.

The ECI had asked Uddhav's camp to submit its documents by Saturday noon to prove itself as the real Shiv Sena to claim the party's symbol.

Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha member Anil Desai said that they need time to submit these mammoth documents in the prescribed format. "We should get at least four more weeks to submit the 10 lakh affidavits we have collected and the 10 lakh documents about the primary members to EC," he said.

Uddhav-led camp also said that 14 MLAs are on their side while 40 legislators supporting Shinde are facing disqualification charges. Besides, Uddhav is backed by 12 MLCs and seven Lok Sabha members while Shinde does not have a single MLC's support, and the 12 Lok Sabha MPs aligning with him are facing disqualification, the EC was told. The Uddhav camp further said that it has three Rajya Sabha members while there is no RS member in the Shinde group. It added that it has over 10 lakh primary members in comparison to the 1.66 lakh members in the Shinde group.

If Shinde group is not going to field candidates in the Andheri East bypoll, then why are they asking for the symbol? Status quo should be maintained till the final decision is taken

Anil Desai, MP

Thackeray led Shiv Sena argued that Uddhav's post as party chief has not been challenged by Shinde.

"Eknath Shinde has accepted Uddhav Thackeray as the party's president in their petitions. So, no claim about the symbol can be made without the party chief's permission. Shinde has appointed himself to the post of chief leader. However, no such post exists in Shiv Sena's constitution," Desai said.

AHEAD OF POLLS

AAP, BJP trade charges over Kejriwal posters in Guj

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@Ahmedabad

ANTI-KEJRIWAL posters and hoardings have come up at various places to coincide with the two-day visit of the Delhi Chief Minister, and Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann to the poll-bound state. The Aam Aadmi Party leaders will be addressing public meetings in Vadodara, Dahod, Valsad and Bardoli.

The posters, put up across cities like Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Rajkot and Surat, show Arvind Kejriwal insulting Hinduism. Some of them also show Kejriwal wearing a skull cap and saying, "These are AAP's words and culture." The posters have been put up by a little-known organization called Hindu Hitrakshak Samiti.

Also, ahead of the AAP's roadshow in Vadodara, the text 'Anti-Hindu Kejriwal Go Back' was found written on the road outside the airport. Workers belonging to BJP and AAP also had a confrontation over the removal of Kejriwal's banner.

The AAP has alleged that the ruling BJP is putting up these posters, and playing the Hindutva card to digress people's attention from its failures.

AAP leader Indranil Rajguru said BJP has failed to give qualitative education, health facilities and jobs to people.

However, BJP leader Bharat Boghra denied that his party is behind the hoardings.

Dilip Lunagaria, chairman of the estate department of Rajkot municipality, said that the posters will be removed.

GEHLOT-ADANI BONHOMIE AT SUMMIT SPARKS ROW

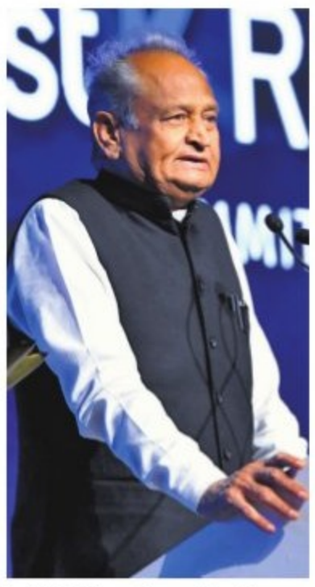
RAJESH ASNANI @Jaipur

CHIEF Minister Ashok Gehlot's warm words for industrialist Gautam Adani at the Invest Rajasthan Summit have triggered a political storm. The BJP has slammed Gehlot and the Congress by saying that on one hand, Rahul Gandhi keeps attacking Adani, and on the other, the Rajasthan government is embracing him.

On the first day of the event on Friday, Gehlot had said about Adani, "He is one of the two richest people in the world. Famous industrialists of the country have come from Gujarat, and now the name of Gautam Bhai Adani has also been included on this list. Gautam Bhai should look for possibilities of investment in Rajasthan."

Adani also praised Gehlot's ability to take quick decisions and even praised many social schemes of the state government. He promised an investment of ₹65,000 crore, employment to 40,000 people and also announced building of two medical colleges and a cricket stadium in Udaipur.

On social media, the Congress was attacked for using the term 'bhai' for Adani, who is close to PM Narendra Modi. Deputy leader of Opposition Rajendra Rathore said, "This is not the first time. Ashok Gehlot is also the one who ordered purchase of coal worth ₹1,104 crore at the rate of 18,000 metric tonnes, which was given to Adani. The same government gave more than 35,000 hectares of land to Gautam Adani for setting up a power plant. Now the question is, why this double standard? Rahul Gandhi says something, Ashok Gehlot says something else. Why these rumblings when the elections are approaching?"



Ashok Gehlot at Invest Rajasthan Summit in Jaipur on Saturday | PTI

Max funds for energy sector

The two-day Invest Rajasthan Summit concluded on Saturday with MSME Conclave. The event brought together a diverse group of notable micro, small and medium business entrepreneurs, investors, thought leaders, and policy & opinion makers to discuss the growth of the sector. The summit began in Jaipur on Friday with Gautam Adani announcing big investments in the state. Among the investments attracted, the highest (57%) came in energy sector, followed by over 18% in the chemical and petrochemical sector.

Clarifying his stand on the issue, Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said, "Adani has offered an investment of ₹60,000 crore for Rajasthan. In such a situation no chief minister will refuse the investment. My fight is only against the monopoly that the government of the country is adopting for 2-3 corporates. The Rajasthan government has not given any special preference to Adani, nor has the Rajasthan government used its political power."

Meanwhile, Gehlot also said at the summit that he will welcomes all industrialists, whether it is Adani, Mukesh Ambani or Jay Shah, who give employment and invest in Rajasthan.

He said, "Making this a political issue will be costly for BJP. Over 3,000 investors including businessmen of all ideologies have come to invest in our state."

If the Rajasthan government gives business to Adani in a wrong way, then I will stand against that too. But if he is given business while following the entire procedure, then I have no objection

Rahul Gandhi, Congress leader

Man-eater hunted down in Bihar after 9 deaths in 26 days

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

A man-eating tiger that killed nine people in the Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR) area in Bihar's West Champaran district in the last 26 days was finally shot dead on Saturday, causing much relief to the local residents.

An eight-member team consisting of personnel from the Special Task Force, District Armed Police and forest department was engaged in the four-hour operation after the ferocious big cat killed a woman and her minor son at Balua village of Raghia forest in VTR early on Saturday. The deceased were identified as Babita Devi (23) and her seven-year-old son, Shivam.

Chief Wildlife Warden Prabhat Kumar Gupta had issued a shoot-at-sight order after the tiger attacked a 35-year-old man Sanjay Mahto, a resident of Dumri village under Ramnagar block in West Champaran district, leading to his death on Friday.

The tiger mauled him to death when the victim had gone to defecate near the bushes close to the forest area. Frequent attacks on the residents were causing great resentment among the people against the forest department officials as well as the police.

"The orders for killing the tiger are issued as per procedure when it is established that the animal is accustomed to living in human habitation. The tiger had killed four people in the last three days," a senior forest department official told this newspaper On Thursday night, a 12-year-old girl fell prey to the man-eating tiger. The deceased was identified as Bagadi Kumari, a resident of Sigadi village. The incident happened when she was sleeping in her house. Forest department officials said that all the victims belonged to the villages adjacent to VTR.

Earlier, a sharp shooter, Shafat Ali, was called from Hyderabad to Bihar to capture the man-eating tiger but the efforts to nab the animal went in vain. The officials attributed the frequent attacks of wild animals on human beings to the growing man-animal conflict in the region.

Heroin worth ₹360 crore seized from Pak boat off Gujarat coast

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Ahmedabad

In a joint operation, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of Gujarat Police apprehended a Pakistani boat Al Sakar with six crew members in Indian waters carrying about 50 kg of heroine worth ₹350 crore. The action was taken on the basis of intelligence inputs given by ATS Gujarat.

"On Friday night, on a specific intelligence input, ICG deployed two interceptor class of ships, C-429 and C-454 for patrolling in area close to notional International Maritime Border Line (IMBL). At midnight, a Pakistani boat was observed moving suspiciously in Indian waters, 5 nm inside notional IMBL and 40 nm from Jakhau," the Coast Guard said in a statement.

"On being challenged, the Pakistani boat started evasive manoeuvring. However, both the ships intercepted the Pakistani boat and forced it to stop. On boarding the boat, thorough rummaging was undertaken during which 50kg of narcotics, believed to be heroin, was found concealed in five gunny bags," the statement added.

Coast Guard and Gujarat ATS officials with the seized heroin on Saturday | PTI

The market value of the seized narcotics is estimated to be about ₹350 crore.

"The ICG ships braved very rough seas in pitch dark night and marginal weather conditions during the entire operation," according to the statement.

An official said the Pakistani boat Al Sakar is being brought to Jakhau for a further joint investigation by all the agencies.

Gujarat Minister of State for Home, Harsh Sanghvi, congratulated the team for taking quick action to seize the drugs.

"The Gujarat ATS team once again exposed the nefarious intentions of Pakistan's drug mafia. As part of a joint operation by Gujarat ATS and Coast Guard, 50 kg of heroin worth 350 crore being brought from Pakistan to Gujarat was seized before it entered the Indian border. Congratulations to the entire team," Sanghavi said.

According to Coast Guard officials, this is the sixth such joint operation undertaken by the Indian Coast Guard and ATS Gujarat in last one year, and the second such operation in less than a month when 40 kg of drugs were seized from a Pakistani boat on September 14. Such operations have been a result of effective coordination and synergy among security agencies, officials say.

HITTING OUT

India slams German double standard after call for UN role in J&K

YESHI SELI @New Delhi

TAKING strong exception to German foreign minister's controversial comments supporting UN intervention in Jammu and Kashmir, India on Saturday called out Germany for its double standards on terrorism.

On Friday, Germany's foreign minister Annalena Baerbock, during a joint press conference in Islamabad with her Pakistan counterpart Bilawal Bhutto, had said Germany has a role and responsibility with regard to the situation of Kashmir. "Therefore, we support intensively the engagement of the UN to find peaceful solutions in the region," she said. Concurring with her, Bhutto said, "In the interest of principles of international law and UN resolutions we hope to see a resolution on Kashmir."

The Indian Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has borne the brunt of such a terrorist campaign for decades. This continues till now

Arindam Bagchi, MEA spokesperson

Responding to her statement, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said on Saturday, "All serious and conscientious members of the global community have a role and responsibility to call out international terrorism, especially of a cross-border nature".

He said Kashmir has borne the brunt of a terrorist campaign for decades. "This continues till now. Foreign nationals have been victims there, as also in other parts of India. The UN Security Council and FATF are still pursuing Pakistan-based terrorists involved in 26/11 attacks."

Truck bomb explosion at Crimea bridge kills three

Moscow says Kyiv's reaction to damage shows its terrorist nature

MOSCOW

AN explosion on Saturday caused the partial collapse of a bridge linking the Crimean Peninsula with Russia, damaging a key supply artery for the Kremlin's faltering war effort in southern Ukraine. Russian authorities said a truck bomb caused the blast and that three people were killed.

Russia's National Anti-Terrorism Committee said that a truck bomb caused seven railway cars carrying fuel to catch fire, resulting in the "partial collapse of two sections of the bridge." A man and a woman riding in a vehicle across the bridge were killed by the explosion, Russia's Investigative Committee said. The truck that exploded was owned by a resident of the Krasnodar region in southern Russia.

The bridge, personally inaugurated by President Vladimir Putin in 2018, is a vital transport link for carrying military equipment to Russian soldiers fighting in Ukraine.

Automobile traffic resumed Saturday afternoon on one of the two links that remained intact from the blast, with the flow alternating in each direction and vehicles undergoing a full inspection procedure.

Rail traffic resumed, its operator said. Grand Service Express, which operates services between Crimea and Russia, said two trains left peninsula in evening for Moscow and Saint Petersburg.

A helicopter drops water to stop fire on Crimean Bridge on Saturday | AP

Kremlin names general to lead Ukraine offensive

Kyiv: Russia's Defense Ministry announced that air force chief, Gen. Sergei Surovikin, would be named commander of all Russian troops fighting in Ukraine. It was the first official appointment of a single commander for all Russian forces in Ukraine. He was placed in charge of Russian troops in southern Ukraine, led Russian forces in Syria and was accused of overseeing a brutal shelling that destroyed much of Aleppo.

Russia's Energy Ministry said Crimea has enough fuel for 15 days. Putin was informed about the explosion and he ordered the creation of a government panel to deal with the emergency.

Ukraine's presidential advisor Mykhailo Podolyak earlier took to Twitter posting a picture of a long section of the bridge half-submerged. "Crimea, the bridge, the beginning," he wrote.

"Everything illegal must be destroyed...everything occupied by Russia must be expelled."

But in a later statement, he appeared to suggest that Moscow had a hand in the blast.

"It is worth noting that the truck that detonated, according to all indications, entered the bridge from the Russian side. So the answers should be sought in Russia," he said.

In Moscow, Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said, "The reaction of the Kyiv regime to the destruction of civilian infrastructure shows its terrorist nature." *Agencies*

Kyiv N-plant loses external power link, says UN

BERLIN

UKRAINE'S Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, the biggest in Europe, has lost its last remaining external power source as a result of renewed shelling and is now relying on emergency diesel generators, the UN nuclear watchdog said on Saturday.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said the plant's link to a 750-kilovolt line was cut at around 1 am on Saturday. It cited official information from Ukraine as well as reports from IAEA experts at the site, which is held by Russian forces.

All six reactors at the plant are shut down but they still require electricity for cooling and other safety functions. Plant engineers have begun work to repair the damaged power line and the plant's generators—not all of which are currently being used—each have sufficient fuel for at least 10 days, the IAEA said.

Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund announced it will provide $1.3 billion in emergency aid to Ukraine through its food crisis assistance programme.

The package will help meet Ukraine's "urgent balance of payment needs... while playing a catalytic role for future financial support from Ukraine's creditors and donors," the IMF said in a statement. *Agencies*

ASIA MATTERS

MALAYSIA

Alleged wildlife trafficker hit with US sanctions

The US targeted an alleged Malaysian wildlife trafficker and what officials called his transnational criminal organisation for financial sanctions related to the illegal shipment of rhino horn, ivory and other specimens. The Treasury Department said Malaysian national Teo Boon Ching, his alleged trafficking organisation and the Malaysian firm Sunrise Greenland Sdn. Bhd. engaged in the "cruel trafficking of endangered and threatened wildlife and the products of brutal poaching." Teo specialises in the transportation of rhino horn, ivory, and pangolins—also known as scaly anteaters—from Africa, using routes through Malaysia and Laos to consumers in Vietnam and China, the US said. Teo, 57, faces one count of conspiracy to commit wildlife trafficking and two counts of money laundering

SINGAPORE

Instant noodles called back over pesticide presence

Mie Sedaap instant noodle has been recalled by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) from Indonesia after two additional pesticides were detected in two products under the brand. This comes after SFA recalled two other flavours which comes under Miep Sedaap instant noodles when ethylene oxide (a pesticide) was detected in them. Arklife Distributor has been directed by SFA to pull back Mie Sedaap Soto instant noodles and Mie Sedaap Curry instant noodles

INDONESIA

FIFA won't sanction over stampede, says President

Indonesia's president said the country will not face sanctions from soccer's world governing body after the firing of tear gas inside a half-locked stadium caused a crush at the exits, killing 131 people, including 17 children. Joko Widodo said FIFA President Giani Infantino wrote in a letter to him about potential collaborations between Indonesia and FIFA and the country will remain the host of next year's U-20 World Cup joined by 24 countries. "Based on the letter, thank God, Indonesian football is not sanctioned by FIFA," Widodo said. In its security protocols, FIFA advises against the use of tear gas in or around stadiums and recommends exit gates be unlocked during a game. While those rules are a safety standard, they don't apply to domestic or national leagues and FIFA has no authority over how police control crowds

China silent on India's abstention at UNHRC

BEIJING

CHINA on Saturday maintained silence on India's abstention at the voting at the UNHRC on the human rights situation in Xinjiang, but defended its crackdown against Uygur Muslims, saying it was aimed at countering "terrorism and separatism."

China's comments came after India abstained from voting on the Xinjiang issue at the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva on Thursday and a day after New Delhi for the first time called for respecting and guaranteeing the rights of people of the autonomous region.

"I have noted relevant reports and want to stress that the issues related to Xinjiang are not related to human rights there but are countering violent terrorism...," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said, responding to a question on her Indian counterpart Arindam Bagchi's remarks. Mao, however, was silent on the question seeking her reaction to India's abstention from the voting on a resolution at UNHRC.

The draft resolution on 'holding a debate on the situation of human rights in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China' was rejected in the 47-member Council after 17 members voted in favour, 19 members voted against, including China, and 11 abstentions, including India, Brazil, Mexico and Ukraine. *PTI*

Emergency services attend the scene following an explosion in Creeslough | AFP

Blast at petrol pump kills 10, including kid

CREESLOUGH

TEN people including a schoolgirl were killed in an explosion at a petrol station in Ireland's northwest, police said on Saturday suggesting a "tragic accident" may have been to blame.

The blast occurred at around 1520 GMT on Friday in the County Donegal village of Creeslough, Ireland's police, the Garda Siochana, said. "There are 10 fatalities as a result of that explosion. The ten casualties are four men, three women, two teenagers—a boy and a girl and a younger girl," said police, adding that all the victims appeared to be locals.An aerial photograph taken after the explosion showed the petrol station building destroyed. Two two-storey residential buildings behind had collapsed, while the facade of a similar adjacent building was blown off.

Resident Kieran Gallagher, whose house is about 150 metres from the scene, said the blast sounded like a 'bomb'. "I was in my house at the time and heard the explosion. Instantly I knew it was something—it was like a bomb going off," he told the *BBC*.

Many emergency services vehicles remained at the scene overnight, including fire services from both sides of the border with British-run Northern Ireland. Ireland's premier Micheal Martin called it a "very dark day" as he spoke to the media. "The scale and enormity of it, it's such a small community, it means that almost everybody will know on a friendly basis people who've lost their lives," he said.

Agriculture Minister Charlie McConalogue, who represents northeast Donegal in the Irish parliament, compared scenes to events during the decades-long sectarian conflict on the island of Ireland over British rule in Northern Ireland.

Creeslough is around 50 km from the border with Northern Ireland and has a population of about 400 people. *AFP*

TOUGH DECISION

In a first, five teens convicted under security law in HK

HONG KONG

THE first minors convicted under Hong Kong's national security law were on Saturday sentenced to detention in a training centre by a judge who said their calls to overthrow China's government must be met with deterrence.

A 16-year-old girl and three 17-year-olds were members of a little-known pro-independence group that called itself "Returning Valiant" and promoted a violent uprising against China at street booths and on social media last year, the court heard.

They were charged with "conspiracy to incite subversion" under a sweeping national security law that Beijing imposed on the city to stamp out dissent after huge and sometimes violent democracy protests three years ago. On Saturday, judge Kwok Wai-kin said the defendants' message could have turned peaceful demonstrators violent—even though he conceded there was no direct evidence of anyone being incited.

"Even if one person is incited, Hong Kong's stability and residents' safety could have been greatly harmed," Kwok said.

The four teens, all pleaded guilty last month alongside fellow defendant Kwok Man-hei, 19. All five were sentenced to up to three years at a training centre, a rehabilitation-focused detention facility which can be a sentencing option for teens aged 14 to 20. In a previous hearing, prosecutor Stella Lo said the group spread its messages outside busy railway stations, gave press conferences and held online broadcasts over the span of four months.

The national security law states that any person who incites subversion must be sentenced to between five and 10 years in jail if the case is of a serious nature.

Hong Kong courts typically refrain from sending minors to prison and prefer options that emphasise rehabilitation. *AFP*

Convicted 'fake heiress' released from detention

NEW YORK

A woman whose exploits posing as a German heiress to scam individuals and financial institutions out of hundreds of thousands of dollars inspired a Netflix series is being released from immigration custody.

Anna Sorokin was scheduled to be released from ICE custody Friday evening, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement said. The 31-year-old had been held by immigration authorities since March 2021 after she had served three years in prison for larceny and theft. Immigration authorities claim she has overstayed her visa and must be returned to Germany. This week, a judge had cleared the way for Sorokin to be released to home confinement while she fights deportation. Under conditions imposed by Manhattan Immigration Judge Charles Conroy, she must post a $10,000 bond, provide a residential address where she'll stay for the duration of her immigration case and refrain from social media posting.

Born near Moscow, Sorokin is the daughter of a Russian truck driver who emigrated to Germany. Posing as Anna Delvey, Sorokin managed to ingratiate herself with New York's movers and shakers, claiming she had a $67 million fortune overseas, according to prosecutors. She falsely claimed to be the daughter of a diplomat or an oil baron.

Prosecutors alleged Sorokin falsified records and lied to banks, luxury hotels and upper crust Manhattanites and stole a total of $275,000. Her exploits inspired the Netflix series *"Inventing Anna."* After Conroy issued his order, Sorokin's attorney, Duncan Levin, said in a statement that Sorokin "is thrilled to be getting out so she can focus on appealing her wrongful conviction." *AP*

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client has intended to purchase the schedule property morefully described in the schedule hereunder from its present owner **Mr. Balraj Vasudevan, S/o. K.Vasudevan,** residing at Block I-34, 1st Main Road, Annanagar East, Chennai 600102, Tamil Nadu State.

Any person/s, financial institutions having any sort of claim / rights / interest /charge / lien on the below said property or any objections for the said sale of the property may file their objections in writing along with supporting documents addressed to the undesigned within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be construed that there are no claims of any sort over the below detailed schedule property and my client shall be advised to proceed with the proposed transaction. Any claim/s thereafter shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

The Apartment **No.103,** on the first floor, having super built up area of 1310 square feet along with 288 sq.ft undivided share / right over the entire property bearing Municipal No.2268/J, PID No.74-1-2268/J, situated at **14th 'A' Main Road, HAL II Stage Extension, Bengaluru,** consisting of two bedrooms which is in apartment building known as SRI **SAI DURGA RESIDENCY** along with one reserved closed car parking area earmarked as 103, in the basement.

B.N.Krishnappa Advocate
#11, 8th Cross, 5th Main, G.M.Palya
Bengaluru 560075, Mob: 9880068828
Place: Bengaluru Date: 08/10/2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mrs. Bhavana Ben and Mr. Patel Dinesh Kumar intends to purchase the below mentioned property from its present owner Mr. Ramaiah @ Ramayya, S/o Pila Anjanappa. Anyone having any sort of claims or objections relating to the property or proposed sale may lodge the same with the undersigned within 15 days from this publication with supporting documents, failing which the sale transaction shall be completed without any reference to such right, title, interest and claim.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable vacant property bearing Site No. 72 formed in Residentially Converted Survey No. 7/3 under Conversion Order No. ALN (EBB) SR12/2018-19 (LAND 10010009), dated 25-05-2019, Panchayath Raj Khatha ID (PID) No. 150200400100920376, situated at Chikkasandra Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, in all totally measuring 1200 Square feet, together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded as follows;
East by : Site No. 66; West by : Road
North by : Site No. 71; South by : Raod

Vijay Shetty, Legal and Property Adviser,
35/2, 1st Main, 2nd cross, H. J. Colony,
Ganganagara, R. T. Nagar Post,
Bengaluru – 560032, Ph: 8431094114
email: sgvijulb@gmail.com

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ನನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ. ಆಂಜೇಶ್.ಜೆ.ಎಸ್ ಮಾಸ : ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಪೂರ್ವ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬಿದರಹಳ್ಳಿ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಹುಸ್ಕೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮ. ಇವರು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01-10-2022 ರಂದು ಮನೆ ಬದಲಾಯಿಸುವ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ಸಿಕವಾಗಿ ಆಂಜೇಶ್ ಹಾಗೂ ವೀಣಾ ಅದ ನಮಗೆ ಬರಿದುಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದ (ಮನೆ ನಂ. 276, 4ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್, ಕಾಡುಗೋಡಿ ಪ್ಲಾಂಟೇಷನ್, ದಿಣ್ಣೂರು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-67 ಗೌರವ ಮಗನಾದ ಆಂಜೇಶ್ ದಾನಪತ್ರ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದು) ದಾನ ಪತ್ರದ ಒರಿಜನಲ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿ (ಸೋಂದಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 1ನೇ, ಪುಸ್ತಕದ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ನಂಬರ್ ಕೆಆರ್‌ಐ-1-00621-2022-23 ಆಗಿ, ಸ.ಡಿ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಕೆಆರ್‌ಐಡಿ1462ನೇದ್ದರಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18-04-2022 ರಂದು ನೊಂದಣಿಯಾಗಿರುವ) ದಾನ ಪತ್ರ ಕಳೆದುಹೋಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆನಾಗಲೇ ಆವಲಹಳ್ಳಿ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಠಾಣೆಗೆ (ಕಳೆದು ಹೋದ ವರದಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 420/2022) ದೂರನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ : 06-10-2022 ರಂದು ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಯಾರಾದರೂ ದುರುಪಯೋಗಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಲ್ಲಿ ಸನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರು ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರರಾಗಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಯಾರಿಗಾದರೂ ಮೇಲೆ ಹೇಳಿದ ದಾನ ಪತ್ರಗಳು ಸಿಕ್ಕಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಸಹಿದಾರರಿಗೆ ತಲುಪಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

ಹೆಚ್.ಎಂ. ಗೋವಿಂದರಾಜು, ವಕೀಲರು,
ನಂ. 11, ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸ ನಿಲಯ, 3ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್, ರಾಮಕೃಷ್ಣ ರೈಸ್ ವಿನೇಗಾನಂದ ಶಾಲೆ ಹತ್ತಿರ, ಎಂ.ಎ. ಎಕ್ಷ್‌ಟೆನ್ಷನ್, ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ-562114. ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 9945447701

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **Lalitha Narayan,** at Somanahalli Village, Sy. No. 177/1, Conversion no B.DL.S.A.L.NS.R(S) 1:85-86, Somanahalli Village Panchayat Site No.10 (TEN) old katha no. 468 New Katha no.815 Assessment No.1531, measuring East to west -30ft North to south 40ft totally 1200 sq.ft situated at **Somanahalli Village. Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South, Bangalore**, the original copy of the sale deed was with me bounded : **East by: Site No.9, West by: Site No.11, North by : Kadarappa's property, South by : Road** through a register document no.BNG(U) KNGR/11650/2001-02.

In this regard I have lodged missing complaint with Kaggalipura Police Station as lost reference No. PO1937220600930 Dated:28/9/2022.

If any-body find the above said document please return to the above mentioned my address or call us : **8867780005**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public is hereby informed that my clients are intends to purchase the property bearing Site No. 2, Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 70 feet, in all 2800 square feets, formed in Residentially converted land bearing Sy. No. 58, New Survey No.103, Measuring to an extent of 4 Acres 18 Guntas (Four Acres Eighteen Guntas) (duly converted for Non Agricultural/Residential purposes by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Vide Conversion Order No. B.DIS.ALN SR (S) 143/2005-06, dated 08-11-2005) 91-92, dated 18/07/1991 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, situated at **Gollahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban District,** presently comes under Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike limits, which is more fully and particularly described in the schedule hereunder hereinafter referred to as the Schedule Property.

The present owner has represented to our clients that she had acquired the schedule property through the Registered Gift Deed Dated 27/08/2018, Registered as Document No. BNG (U)-JNR 5219//2018-19, Book-I, Stored in C.D.No. JAYD354, Registered before the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore South Taluk.

Any person/s having any claim or asserting any rights or interest in the Schedule Property in any manner, may lodge their objections or claims in writing with all supporting documentary evidence by Registered Post with regard to such claim with the undersigned within **Fifteen Days** from the date hereof, failing which my clients will proceed to purchase the schedule property from the aforesaid owners on the basis that there are no claims whatsoever against the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE PROPERTY BEARING SITE NO. 2, MEASURING EAST TO WEST 40 FEET AND NORTH TO SOUTH 70 FEET, IN ALL 2800 SQUARE FEETS, formed in Residentially converted land bearing Sy. No. 58, New Survey No.103, Measuring to an extent of 4 Acres 18 Guntas (Four Acres Eighteen Guntas) (Duly converted for Non Agricultural/Residential purposes by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Vide Conversion Order No. B.DIS.ALN SR (S) 143/2005-06, dated 08-11-2005) 91-92, dated 18/07/1991 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, situated at Gollahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, presently comes under Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike limits and bounded on:
East by : Property Bearing Site No.3,
West by : Property Bearing Site No. 1,
North by : Road,
South by : Property bearing Site No. 9,

N. Channakrishnappa, Advocate
M/s. CR and CK Associates,
No. 290/40, 5th Main, 11th Cross,
Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027
Mobile : 9448023809

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No.Y/E.29/2022-23/22 Dated: 01-10-2022.
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites Tenders for the following work:

Description of work	Approx. Value
Electrical piece work (Zonal work) for Senior Section Engineer/East/ Arsikere Jurisdiction for a period of One Year.	Rs. 17,00,000/-

Last date for submission of bids : **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 24-10-2022**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
PUB/411/AAD/PRB/SWR/2022-23 **Mysuru**
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Government of India
Indian Institute of Information Technology, Una [HP]
DATE EXTENSION NOTICE
Please refer website Advt. No. IIITU/FR-IV/Professor /2022-889 dated 01, Sept."22."Last date to submit the application for the post of Professor is extended till **26 October 2022.** Visit Institute website **www.iiitu.ac.in** for more details." **Director**

BIHAR SCHOOL EXAMINATION BOARD
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
(Through e-procurement mode only over https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
Tender Notice No.- PR 186 / 2022
Bihar School Examination Board, Patna invites e-tenders under two bid systems from the reputed, experienced Firms /Companies/ Agencies/ Societies having experience of handling the works of **"TR Record Degitization"**.

Scope of work	Cost of tender Document (Inclusive of GST @18.00%) to be paid through e-payment mode (i.e., NEFT/ RTGS/Credit Card/Debit card) (in Rupees)	Tender processing Fee (Non-Refundable)	Earnest Money
Selection of Agency for TR Record Digitization as per decision of BSEB.	₹ 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only)	₹ 3,540/- (Rupees Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty Only)	₹ 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakh Only)

Tender Schedule / Programme:

Date and Time for Activity	Date/Time: Duration
Online Sale/Download date of Tender documents	**From: 10/10/2022 (11:00 Hrs) to 01/11/2022 (14:00 Hrs)** (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
Pre-Bid Meeting	**18/10/2022 at 12:30 Hrs.** (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Last Date/ Time for submission/ uploading of offer/ Bid	**01/11/2022 up to 14:00 Hrs.** (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
Submission of EMD (in case of BG) in Hard copy/ Original	**04/11/2022 up to 14:00 Hrs.** (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid	**04/11/2022 at 14:30 Hrs** (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in) (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Financial Bid Opening Date and Time	Date to be announced later by Competent Authority.

- Tender Document Fee & Tender Processing fee to be submitted only via Online Mode. EMD to be submitted offline only in case of Bank Guarantee.
- Detailed descriptions of the items and instructions for submitting your offer can be downloaded from e-tender website **(https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)**.
- For support related to e-tendering process, Bidders may contact at "e-Procurement HELP DESK Address: Mjunction services limited RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, P.S. - Shastri Nagar, Patna 800 014, Bihar First" or may visit the link "Vendor Info" at **(https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)**. Bidders may also raise their concern by following means:
  - ✓ Toll Free Number: 1800 572 6571 (Working Hours: 8AM to 7PM, All days in week except few selected state holidays)
  - ✓ Email ID: **eproc2support@bihar.gov.in**
- Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, will be published on e-Procurement Portal, Bihar **https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in** itself.
- **Contact Details:** Sh. Vinod Kumar Singh, Nodal officer - +91 62999 23095, E-Mail ID – **eproc-bseb-bih@gov.in/ eproc.bseb@gmail.com**
- **Note :-** Bihar School Examination Board reserves the right to Accept/ Cancel/ Reschedule tenders without assigning any reasons. **Secretary**

Your Guide to Spicy Living INDULGE Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

3,000 more electric buses will ply in different cities of the country in the next two years under the FAME-II scheme, Heavy Industries Minister Mahendra Nath Pandey has said.

India in for another oil price shocker

Last week, major oil producing countries announced production cuts next month

SUNITHA NATTI

WE are in for another global oil price shocker.

Last week, major oil producing nations favoured price over stability and announced production cuts next month. This, coupled with the European energy sanctions on Russia kicking in December, the anticipated surge in crude prices is likely to be hell on wheels amid persistent inflation and recessionary fears.

Analysts are yet to pin down which is more harmful than the other -- higher pump prices affecting consumption and demand or rising interest rates stoking financial bankruptcies and economic losses. The joint impact is too dreadful to imagine for households worldover.

Truth be told, such engineered oil price shocks aren't new. They have been an integral part of the industry since its birth, but oil politicking deepened during 1970s.

Prior to that, the oil cartel comprising major oil producers like Chevron, Amoco and Mobil had only two priorities -- to keep oil production abundant and cheap for consumption. But in late 1960s, countries like Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela nationalised their oil reserves and formed the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) amassing real supply power. In 1973, they first wielded their might cutting production, when Western countries supported Israel against Egypt and Syria. In no time, global oil prices shot up four-fold and since then there have been multiple instances when supply-led oil price shocks held the global economy by its throat.

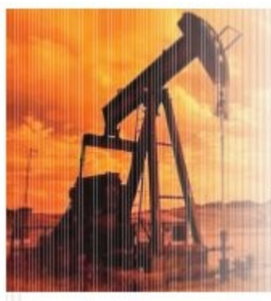
For an oil-importing economy like India the impact has been often acute.

The first major blow came in early 1970s, when oil prices jumped 252% from $3.2 to $11.5 per barrel between December 1973 and 1974. Consequently, domestic fuel prices rose by 26.5% on average during the three years beginning 1973-74, increasing the oil import bill by 175%. This also meant, trade deficit shot up to ₹438 crore in 1973-74 as against a surplus of ₹103 crore the previous year. Making matters worse, the oil price shock was accentuated by two successive droughts leading to significant decline in agricultural output. Needless to say, rising fuel prices and agricultural commodity prices edged up retail inflation to above 25%, sparking countrywide protests.

The second episode followed just a few years later in 1979, when global crude prices increased by 130%, taking domestic fuel price inflation from an average of sub-4% in the three years before the crisis to an average of above 20% during the three years of the crisis beginning 1979-80, with a peak of 25.3% in 1980-81.

We were barely recovering from the oil price rise, that another crisis fell upon us in 1990-91. Thanks to the Gulf crisis, the average price of India's crude basket yet again doubled from $15 to $30 per barrel. As per the RBI, the direct adverse impact on the current account was estimated at ₹5,180 crore! The Gulf crisis-led oil price shock exacerbated India's woes, and eventually threw us into a severe Balance of Payment crisis. Hikes in procurement prices as well as supply-demand imbalances in essential commodities like pulses, oilseeds and edibles oils further added to headline inflation. Foreign currency reserves at $ 2.2 billion as of March 1991, equivalent to less than one month of imports, constrained imports. The sustained, double-digit rise of 13% in fuel prices during the first half of the 1990s left its impact not only directly, but also through the second-round effects. Even more disruptive price shocks occurred in 2008 when oil prices precipitated to $139 per barrel, amid rising demand and falling supply, followed by the 2010-2014 price shocks, when crude prices remained over $100 per barrel for a four-year stretch – the longest such period on record. Though prices collapsed in late 2014, as per the World Bank, lower prices failed to deliver the boost to global growth that many had expected. Not all oil price shocks are caused by similar reasons. They could be demand or supply-driven, but the fact remains that high pump prices increase input costs for firms, reduce their profits and lowers output. On the demand side, high oil prices cut consumption and investment in the economy. Its effects turn lethal when imported inflation forces monetary policy tightening, causing exchange rate volatility and in turn affecting growth.

Countries like India keep a ceaseless vigil on oil, accounting for over 20% of its total import bill and contributing about 56% of total trade deficit. In FY21, the average price of the Indian crude oil basket stood at $44.82 per barrel. In contrast, it's estimated to average $100 per barrel or more during the current fiscal. Even as the central bank estimates headline inflation to retreat to sub-6%, oil prices could pose fresh trouble. As it is, downstream oil marketing companies like IOCL, BPCL and HPCL couldn't raise retail fuel prices in line with global prices, and Kotak Securities estimates they have incurred untold under-recoveries of nearly ₹1 lakh crore in the past six months of curent fiscal. If the trend continues, under-recoveries will widen. Ironically, higher price are not good for upstream firms like ONGC and OIL given that the governnment has introduced the windfall tax, capping realisations at $75 per barrel.



Oil toil

Next month, OPEC+ nations will jointly cut production by **2 million** barrels per day

This is lower than the **10 million** barrels per day production cuts seen during April 2020 in the wake of Covid-19

Some believe Moscow to influence OPEC, making it expensive for the West to extend energy sanctions on Russia

Saudi Arabia has rebuffed it, saying the West was often driven by "wealth arrogance" when criticising the group

Analysts expect prices to touch **$100-$105** per barrel in coming months

The good oil

For an oil-importing economy like India impact has been often acute. First major blow came in early 1970s, when oil prices jumped 252% from $3.2 to $11.5 a barrel between Dec 1973 and 1974.

NEWSCOPE

Making sense of RSS' Hosabale's ECONOMIC CRITIQUE

GURBIR SINGH

DATTATREYA Hosabale, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) general secretary and possible next in line to take over as 'Sarsanghchalak' after Mohan Bhagwat, has created a stir underlining the problems of poverty, inequality and unemployment – the weak underbelly of the Indian economy.

Speaking a few days before Dusshera at a webinar organized by the Swadeshi Jagran Manch, Hosabale shuffled the contours of 'good' and 'evil', evoking Ravan: "Poverty in the country is standing like a demon in front of us. It is important that we slay this demon. "Reeling off statistics, he said 20 crore Indians live below the poverty line and 23 crore earn only ₹375 a day. On rising inequality, he said "50% Indians own just 13.5% of national income", while 1% of the rich own a fifth of the wealth.

Quoting a "UN Observer' – unheard of in the past – the RSS General Secretary said "large parts of India have no access to clean water or nutritious food". He pointed to the high employment rate of 7.6%, and pooh-poohed policies that looked to urban centers to create employment, but instead turned them into living hell. Hosabale blamed "government inefficiency" and said 'tech solutions' was not the answer.

Applause from opponents

Opponents seized upon his speech, analysts were left scratching their heads. Shiv Sena leader Uddhav Thackeray, at his Dusshera rally in Mumbai, was all praise for Hosabale for showing the mirror to the government, saying the RSS had brought the focus on neglected economic issues.

It is ironical that much of the criticism – that there is growing inequality in the country – has been voiced earlier by organisations like Oxfam, who have recently been forced out and have had their bank accounts frozen. For instance, the data that the top 10 people in India hold 57% of the wealth, while the share of the bottom half is 13%, was first presented by Oxfam this year in January at the World Economic Forum at Davos.

In fact, poverty and income disparity is probably worse than represented by Hosabale. The Union government says free dry rations continued during the Covid pandemic for 800 million people to keep them from the throes of hunger; and a 2020 World Economic Forum paper found some 220 million Indians survived on less than ₹3/day (not ₹375 a day, as claimed by Hosabale).

Some political analysts are questioning not the content, but Hosabale's timing. With elections round the corner in 2024, is this the right time to show one's own government in poor light? Others are asking: will there be disciplinary action against him? Opposition parties like the Congress have seized on his speech saying the RSS has finally discovered there is unemployment and poverty in the country.

Refining ideology

For those who know the RSS well, much of this is kite-flying. No RSS leader commits himself without a well thought out agenda. Significantly, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, at his Nagpur Vijayadashami rally a few days later, without reference to Hosabale, supported the government. Bhagwat said the economy was fast recovering from the Covid downturn, and the future was bright and moving in the right direction. This seems a contradiction between the No.1 and No.2, but in the RSS' scheme of things, it is not amiss. Mohan Bhagwat, at the important Dussehra Vijayadashami rally, stood with the official position – that the government is performing well. Dattatreya Hosable, on the other hand, was warning the government to take note of the growing economic headwinds in the context of the coming state and the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. It is the classical good-cop-bad-cop approach of convincing a disenchanted populace!

The RSS has managed to say relevant by constantly refining its optics. What was a narrow, Brahmin supremist organization in the early 1940s and 50s, today denies it has anything to do with caste. Sunil Ambekar, an RSS idealogue who wrote the book: 'The RSS: Roadmaps For the 21st Century', says the organization is "caste neutral". "No one in the RSS is ever asked what his caste is. There is never a discussion on caste, unless there is a policy issue or a problem."

Two rounds of UP elections were won by hammering out an alliance of OBC and scheduled castes aligning with the dominant Rajputs and other upper castes. Public postures over time have changed on the organization's approach to Mahatma Gandhi and on women. There is double speak too. Despite all the official Islamophobia, Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat never tires of reiterating that the RSS definition of 'Hindu' has nothing to do with religion. A 'Hindu' is anyone who is born and has several generations of lineage in 'Hindustan'. So it is with Hosabale. Not too much can be read into his criticism. He neither spoke out of turn, nor was he saying the Modi government hadn't performed. All what he was flagging was the need to attend to growing economic concerns.

SOUMYADIP SINHA

Ambuja gets nod for raising ₹20K crore

PTI @ New Delhi

AMBUJA CEMENTS on Saturday said it has received shareholders' approval for all proposals in its EGM, including a resolution to raise ₹20,000 crore from an Adani group firm and appointment of Gautam Adani and others on the board of the company.

The Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) has passed special resolution proposing to raise ₹20,000 crore by issuing securities on a preferential basis to Harmonia Trade and Investment, an Adani group entity, with 91.37% votes, Ambuja Cements said in a regulatory update. Resolutions to appoint Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani, his son Karan Adani and two directors and four independent directors on the board of Ambuja were also approved by the shareholders. The proposal to appoint Gautam Adani was approved with 96.51% of valid votes cast in favour, while the appointment of Karan Adani received 99.96% votes.

CNG, PNG prices hiked in Delhi-NCR, days after 40% increase in gas prices

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

DAYS after the government increased the price of natural gas, gas producing companies on Saturday hiked the prices of compressed natural gas (CNG) and piped natural gas (PNG) in the national capital and adjoining areas by ₹3.

As per the price notification, Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) has hiked the CNG prices from ₹75.61 per KG to ₹78.61 per KG in Delhi. In the National Capital Region (NCR), the prices have been increased from ₹78.17 per KG to ₹81.17 per KG. The new rates will be applicable from today (October 8, 2022).

This ₹3 per kg increase in CNG price is the first hike in rates in over four months, while a ₹3 per standard cubic metres increase in PNG was the first raise in two months.

This hike comes after the government, last week, increased the rate paid for gas produced from old gas fields to ₹8.57 per unit from the current ₹6.1 per million British thermal unit (mmBtu), nearly 40% hike. The price of gas extracted from difficult sectors has increased from ₹9.92 to ₹6 per British thermal unit. Following the 40% price hike in natural gas, which is used to generate electricity or fertiliser and turned in to CNG, the industry experts had forecast a gas price hike in the country.

They believe the company may hike ₹8-12 per kg on CNG and over ₹6 on PNG to account for the rise in input natural gas prices. The government revises gas prices twice annually -- from April 1 to September 30 and from October 1 to March 31. So, the price for October 1 to March 31 is based on the average price from July 2021 to June 2022. Following the 40% hike in natural gas, Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) increased the price of CNG by Rs 6 per kg to Rs 86 per kg and a Rs 4 per scm increase in PNG price to Rs 52.50 per scm in Mumbai and surrounding areas.

As per the reports, this is the 14th hike in the gas price since 7 March 2022. Rates were last increased by ₹2 per kg on 21 May 2022. In all, CNG prices has risen by Rs. 22.60 per kg during this period, Since April 2021, CNG prices have increased by ₹35.21 per kg or 80%.

IGL hikes CNG price from ₹75.61 to ₹78.61 per KG

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EXPRESS READ

Bandhan Bank's collection efficiency increases to 97 %

KOLKATA: Bandhan Bank on Saturday said its collection efficiency ratio (CER) raised to 97%, excluding NPAs and including restructured accounts, at the end of second quarter. The bank's CER stood at 96% at the end of first quarter FY23. Its CER at the end of July-September period for microlending increased to 95% as against 94% it registered at the end of the previous quarter. *PTI*

Retail job searches by Indians decline 11.8%, says report

NEW DELHI: There has been a decline of 11.80% in Indians searching for retail jobs from August 2021 to August this year, according to a report. Indians searching for retail jobs has seen a fall during the pandemic and beyond as jobs in retail sector have seen a 5.50 per cent degrowth in the past three years (August 2019 - August 2022), global job site Indeed said in the report. *PTI*

Business & Beyond

Vedanta felicitates meritorious wards of Subhalaxmi Cooperative members

Jharsuguda, Odisha: Vedanta Aluminium felicitated 114 meritorious students from local communities, who are children of Subhalaxmi Cooperative members, for their superlative performance in state matriculation examinations. Subhalaxmi Cooperative, the flagship community development initiative of Vedanta's Aluminium Business, is one of India's largest rural women's cooperatives which works in the realm of 'sustainable livelihoods and 'women's empowerment'.

Reliance Digital brings exciting offers for Dusshera

Mumbai: This Dusshera, bring home your kind of latest tech with Reliance Digital's Festival of Electronics sale. Take a pick from your nearest Reliance Digital stores, My Jio Stores or shop online at reliancedigital.in. In addition to exciting offers, to make this celebration even more joyous, you can avail a 10% instant discount on leading bank cardsalong with easy EMI options. Choose from the widest range of your favourite electronics, right from TVs and domestic appliances, to audio devices, mobile phones, laptops and more. Be it for gifting or your own use, Reliance Digital has best offers lined up this festive season.

Odisha Tourism organises Bike Rally, cultural programme on World Tourism Day

Bhubaneswar: A super bike rally was organised by Odisha Tourism from Infocity Square to Dhauli Shanti Stupa on the occasion of World Tourism Day 2022. The rally was flagged off by Commissioner of Police Bhubaneswar Cuttack Shri S. K Priyadarshi along with Director Tourism Shri Sachin R. Jadhav in the presence of Convenor Odisha Super Riders Shri Devjyoti Patnaik.

Bank of Baroda announced launch of Khushiyon ka Tyohaar annual festive campaign with a range of offers

Bank of Baroda (Bank), one of India's leading public sector banks, announced the launch of Khushiyon ka Tyohaar – its annual festive campaign with a range of offers for customers. With attractive interest rates on home loans and car loans, in addition to waiver/discount on processing charges and other benefits, this is the opportune time for customers to avail a loan to buy their dream home or car or avail a personal loan.

Mohit Bhatia new CEO of Bank of India Investment Managers

Mr. Mohit Bhatia has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of Bank of India Investment Managers Private Limited with effect from October 04, 2022. Mr. Bhatia brings with him over 26 years of professional experience in Mutual Funds & Financial Services industry with a strong performance track record and achievement of significant results in areas of Sales & Distribution, Team building, Marketing & branding, building of Digital ecosystem, MF industry focused project work, process & quality enhancements and business planning.

Tsitsipas vs Djokovic in Astana title decider

Stefanos Tsitsipas set up a final against Novak Djokovic with a come-from-behind victory against Andrey Rublev in Astana on Saturday. The Greek third seed won 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 to reach his sixth final of the season. Djokovic advanced after his semifinal opponent, Daniil Medvedev, retired after the second set. Djokovic had bounced back to win the second set. 4-6, 7-6 (6).

Rani hoping for Games springboard yet again

The ace forward got a national camp call-up after her 1st Games in 2007, she wishes it once again paves way for India comeback

FIROZ MIRZA @Gandhinagar

FOR former India women's hockey team captain Rani Rampal, it all started at the Guwahati National Games in 2007. Only 13 then, Rani impressed the then national coach of the women's team, MK Kaushik, with her skill while playing for eventual champions Haryana. Post those Games, she found her way to the national camp.

Life can come full circle for the ace forward if the Haryana player manages to make her comeback to the national fold by leaving her mark at the ongoing National Games here in Gujarat.

"National Games is a very special tournament for me as I made it to the national camp only after shining at the event in 2007. I was quite young at thattime and (late) MK Kaushik selected me for the camp. So in every sense, I have a special connection with the Games and it will remain forever," the 27-year-old Shahbad player told this daily.

She also represented Haryana in the next edition held in Ranchi in 2011 and won a second gold for the state in the event. Given the mix of experienced and young players the side has for this edition, Rani is confident of her team winning the gold and she completing a hat-trick of titles. Haryana have reached the semifinals and they will play Jharkhand on Sunday for a place in the final, scheduled on October 11.

Rani led the India women's side to its best-ever finish (fourth) at the 2020 Olympics last year but has been out of the team since then due to injury. She made a comeback playing an FIH Pro League match against hosts Belgium earlier this year. Coincidentally, the match was also her 250th appearance for the country.

Rani Rampal | TWITTER

Emphasising that the hamstring injury, which has sidelined her for most part of the past year, has healed completely, Rani said she can only control things which are in her hands. "I did rehabilitation post the Tokyo Games and came back. I have been training regularly in the camp. I can only work on the field every single day as that is in my hands. If I get a chance to play for the country again, I will give my all as I had in the past."

She made her India debut in 2008 and has been in the circuit for the past 14 years. Playing competitive games for the major part of the year is not easy and players have to evolve and follow different plans to keep playing for a long period of time. For Rani, the focus is remaining injury free and doing the basics right.

"Mostly, I try to keep myself injury free. I try to have a sound sleep of 8-10 hours at night so that I can train well the next day. Discipline has been the mantra throughout my playing career and I still abide by it. I also plan my diet with my nutritionist and strictly follow instructions on what to eat and what not to eat so that I recover in time."

She closely watched her teammates competing in the 2022 World Cup and Commonwealth Games. While the team finished ninth at the World Cup, they clinched a third medal in Birmingham by finishing third. Rani admits that it's not easy to play such big tournaments but says the team did well in both the events. "We played good hockey. Everybody puts in a lot of effort. Such tournaments have different phases and you have to perform well in all those periods. As far as I have observed, we need to work on our finishing skills. No matter how hard we work, if we do not finish properly then we cannot win matches. Besides, we need to improve the execution of our penalty corners."

India women will play Nations Cup in Spain from December 10 to 17 in their bid to qualify for the Pro League for next season. The Savita Punia-led side finished third this season behind Argentina and the Netherlands. Rani feels the podium finishers should have been given direct entry but backs her team to qualify by winning the event. "You cannot change the rules. But I am confident we can win the tournament. Spain is a good team and it all depends on how we play on that given day," she added.

The players including Rani will get a 10-day break after the Games and will reassemble for the national camp in Bengaluru on October 26. Hopefully for Rani, the event once again paves way for the national team as it did 15 years ago.

Post CWG trials loss, kick for judoka Yamini

FIROZ MIRZA @Gandhinagar

YAMINI Mourya had defeated the likes of Suchika Tariyal and undefeated Anita Chanu in the selection trials to find a place in the national team for the 2021 Asia-Oceania Olympic qualifiers.

The event in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan was also supposed to be the senior international debut for the 57kg judoka. However, fate had something else in store for her as one of the Indian judokas tested positive for coronavirus after landing in Kyrgyzstan forcing the 16-member team to withdraw from the tournament.

She later made her international debut and competed in the Madrid European Open earlier this year. However, a loss to Suchika in the selection trials meant she had to miss out on the chance to represent the country at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

The 22-year-old Yamini — who hails from Sagar, Madhya Pradesh and trains at Inspire Institute of Sport (IIS), Karnataka — made amends in the senior nationals held to pick top-16 judokas for the ongoing National Games as she got the better of Suchika. The duo met again here at the Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar in the 57kg semifinals and Yamini made it two in a row against her famed rival. She also went on to win the final against Haryana's Savitri to pocket a gold medal.

2021 Asian C'ship winner Sanjeet (right) put up a dominant show on Saturday

"What happened in Bishkek was unfortunate for all judokas, especially for Yamini as it was supposed to be her international debut in the senior category. She then missed the Birmingham flight but it's good that she made a comeback by not only winning nationals but also gold at the National Games," IIS coach Jiwan Sharma told this daily.

Yamini was initiated into the sport by her sports coach in school when she was only 11. Second among three daughters and a son in a modest family, she shifted to MP Martial Arts Academy in Bhopal and trained there for three before coach Sharma took her under his wings at the NIS Patiala in 2015. "Jiwan sir then joined IIS and I followed him in 2017. Since then I have been training there only. My father Hariom Mourya is an LIC agent with meagre income but he never discouraged me from pursuing judo. In fact all my family members supported me wholeheartedly," Yamini told this newspaper. Coach Sharma holds his ward as a bright prospect for future and affirms that she is ready for bigger events like Asian Games. "Now she has started beating her senior counterparts. If she continues in the same vein, she can represent the country in the Asiad scheduled next year," Sharma added.

Geetika Pant, Yamini's coach at the MP Academy, was also delighted with her ward's success. "After losing to Suchika at the CWG selection trials, Yamini met her in the second bout at the nationals. The past loss didn't matter as she defeated her to claim national glory. The semifinal against Suchika was tough here but she managed to overcome the hurdle to finish on top of the podium," Pant said.

Boxer Sanjeet in quarters

Reigning Asian champion Sanjeet (92kg) and former junior World champion Mandeep Kaur cruised into the quarterfinals of their respective weight divisions in the boxing competition on Saturday. Sanjeet earned a RSC (referee stops contest) win against Uttarakhand's Harish Singh to enter the last-eight round. Meanwhile, Goa will host the 37th edition of the Games in October next year.

EXPRESS READ

Title-chasing Verstappen pips Leclerc to Japanese GP pole

SUZUKA: Max Verstappen gave himself a great chance to retain his Formula One world title at Sunday's Japanese GP after grabbing pole in Suzuka. The Red Bull driver topped the timesheets in qualifying with a time of 1min 29.304sec, just 0.010sec ahead of Ferrari's Charles Leclerc. Carlos Sainz was third in the other Ferrari. Verstappen then faced a nervous wait after stewards said they would investigate a scary on-track incident involving the Dutchman and McLaren's Lando Norris.

Rajiv, Senthil gain points for Honda Racing India in ARRC

SEPANG: Honda Racing India team's Senthil Kumar and Rajiv Sethu finished at 14th and 15th place, respectively, in the first race of Round 4 of FIM Asia Road Racing Championship (ARRC) here. Starting 14th from the grid, Rajiv dropped down to the 17th position after first lap. However, he moved up to the 14th position in the final lap and finished the race with a total time of 20:32.048, earning 2 points. Senthil finished the race next to Rajiv in 15th position, earning 1 point for the team.

Captain Babar leads Pakistan to comfortable win over NZ

CHRISTCHURCH: Pakistan captain Babar Azam struck an unbeaten 79 from 53 balls and shared a 61-run partnership with Shadab Khan in a six-wicket win over New Zealand on Saturday in the T20 tri-series. New Zealand captain Kane Williamson made the unusual decision to bat first after winning the toss and the Black Caps managed only 147-8 in their 20 overs.

Brief scores: NZ 147/8 in 20 ovs (Conway 36, Williamson 31, Chapman 32, Rauf 3/28, Wasim 2/20, Nawaz 2/44) **lost to Pakistan** 149/4 in 18.2 ovs (Azam 79 n.o).

India stick to experimentation with WC in focus

GOMESH S @Chennai

INDIA had just lost to Pakistan for only the third time ever in the T20I format on Friday. While the on-field rivalry and competition in women's cricket has never been the same as their male counterparts, it was a result that was always going to create a buzz. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led side had experimented with their batting-order in the Asia Cup clash and it did not work in their favour on the day.

Head coach Ramesh Powar came out and defended their approach in the post-match press conference. "We came together as a group, and thought we needed to get through tough situations under pressure with different sets of match winners, not just Jemi(mah Rodrigues, Smriti (Mandhana) or Harman(preet). We have confidence (in the younger players), that is why we tried it," he said after the loss against Pakistan.

That said, the result and the reaction followed made one wonder if India would continue to experiment. On Saturday against Bangladesh, some forced changes — Harmanpreet, D Hemalatha and Radha Yadav were out due to niggles — meant India had to continue with a bit of experimentation as far as the team combination went. However, they stuck to the proven top three and they came good — Smriti (47 runs from 38 balls), Shafali Verma (55 off 44), Jemimah (24-ball 35), helping India get back to winning ways.

India trumped Bangladesh by 59 runs in the Asia Cup clash on Saturday | ACC MEDIA

While Smriti and Jemimah have been scoring consistently, Shafali's contribution was the biggest positive for India. Despite her rough patch, the team management had backed her through the CWG and England series. But with Sabbineni Meghana grabbing the opportunities that came her way in Bangladesh, there was pressure on the teenager to get back amongst runs. And she did exactly that, gaining some much needed confidence before the knockouts.

All said and done, what seems clear so far is that India are treating this tournament to provide game-time to the middle-order — who have at times crumbled under pressure in big knockout games — so that they are prepared better. It's been the talking point from the team management throughout the Asia Cup. Jemimah reiterated the same on Saturday.

"When the team spoke (before the start of the Asia Cup), we said that this is the tournament that we are going to prepare for the World Cup. So, you want each and every person to get that experience, to go out there in pressure situations and play. The basic idea, even in the Pakistan game, everyone believed that anyone who walked into bat could go out there and win the match for India. That is the basic thought process," said the 22-year-old.

There are several questions to be asked on-field strategies. But the one thing India seem to be doing right is sticking to their plan with a long-term goal in mind. Whether it will work on the big stage or not is yet to be seen. For now, they could play a maximum of three games before their campaign ends. Which means three more days of experiments and opportunities, for the prize they have in mind is much bigger than the Asia Cup.

Brief scores: India 159/5 in 20 ovs (Shafali 55, Smriti 47) **bt** Bangladesh 100/7 in 20 ovs (Nigar 36, Shafali 2/10).

Revised IOA constitution may usher in new era

INDRANEEL DAS @Chennai

THE Indian Olympic Association (IOA) constitution is expected to incorporate sweeping reforms in line with the Delhi High Court's August 16 order. This will lead to a big change in the IOA structure. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has agreed with most of the points during its multi-party meeting in Lausanne on September 27. It has chalked out a roadmap which seems agreeable to all parties.

However, the election process needs to get over by the next IOC Executive Board meeting on December 5-7. That means the date suggested by L Nageswara Rao in his notice for the meeting recently would need to be modified. "The whole process (including the elections) will have to be completed prior to the IOC EB meeting in December 2022," said the IOC summary report.

Rao's letter had said, "To prepare a road map for the amendment of the IOA Constitution and for the conduct of the IOA elections so that the entire process is completed at best, by 15 December 2022." Though the IOC said most of the points suggested by the Delhi HC are "agreeable", it raised objections to two points. 2/3 majority for re-election and appointment of 25 per cent of sportspersons as voting members. As a first step, "the IOA Constitution will be amended to include the necessary governance reforms".

The IOC has said that "the IOC/OCA will work together with the judge appointed by the Supreme Court of India on the draft revised Constitution".

"In principle, most of the points raised by the High Court of Delhi in its decision dated 16 August 2022 are agreeable for the IOC/OCA and compatible with the Olympic Charter and the basic principles of good governance of the Olympic Movement," said the report.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

CAN HOSTS KEEP SERIES ALIVE?

South Africa can clinch the three-match series against the hosts in Ranchi on Sunday. A look...

INDIA'S TOP-ORDER

The likes of Ruturaj Gaikwad and Shubman Gill — India's NextGen in the format — were blown away in the opening ODI. With the likes of Kagiso Rabada steaming in, the challenge will remain. Can they tackle them?

BISHNOI-AVESH AXIS

The leg-spin of Ravi Bishnoi and the pace of Avesh Khan can thrill but, equally, it can be taken for runs. Like some of India's batters, they lie in wait. For them to replace the senior pros, they will have to start producing on a consistent basis.

WASHINGTON CALLED UP

With Deepak Chahar the latest pacer to pull up with an injury, **Washington Sundar**, himself prone to niggles, has been drafted in as a replacement. It's unlikely he will figure but the forgotten man of Indian cricket will be hoping to catch the eye.

1.30 PM, Ranchi
Live on Star Sports Networks

HAPPY RETURN

Bengaluru FC edged NorthEast United 1-0 to start their ISL campaign on a winning note. Alan Costa scored in the 87th minute for the home side | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Skeet shooters behind eight ball

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

INDIAN skeet shooters' toil continued on Day 2 of the ongoing ISSF World Championship in Osijek, where Olympic quotas are on the line. They were way behind after the first two rounds on Friday. Their status didn't improve much after two further rounds on Saturday.

Gurjoat Khangura was the best-placed Indian in the men's section at 58th position. Senior pro Mairaj Ahmad Khan improved in the third round but two misses in the fourth saw him placed at a lowly 64th. Anantjeet Singh Naruka was 65th. In the women's section, Maheshwari Chauhan was impressive in the third round, scoring 25 out of 25, but given her below-par show on Friday, she was still way behind the leaders at 24th position.

FOOTBALL

City go top, Chelsea tame Wolves

AFP @London

MANCHESTER City swept to the top of the Premier League with a 4-0 rout of Southampton as Erling Haaland extended his incredible scoring run to 10 successive games, while resurgent Chelsea eased to a 3-0 victory against Wolves on Saturday.

Joao Cancelo, Phil Foden and Riyad Mahrez all netted for Pep Guardiola's side before Haaland added his customary goal to seal yet another one-sided success at the Etihad Stadium.

Haaland has scored an astonishing 20 goals in his first 12 competitive games since his £51 million ($56 million) move from Borussia Dortmund.

Fuelled by the Norway striker, City are the first club to score at least three goals in nine consecutive top-flight home matches since Wolves in 1959. The champions are now two points clear of second placed Arsenal ahead of the north London club's clash with Liverpool on Sunday.

Joao Cancelo wheels away in celebration after opening City's account | AFP

Guardiola's remarkable team have only lost one of their last 37 league games as they chase a fifth English title in the last six seasons.

City have scored 24 goals in their last six games, winning eight of their last nine games across all competitions.

City opened the scoring in the 20th minute as Joao Cancelo weaved through the Southampton defence, evaded James Ward-Prowse's challenge and fired through the legs of keeper Gavin Bazunu.

Results: EPL: Bournemouth **2-1** Leicester; Chelsea **3-0** Wolves; Man City **4-0** Southampton; Newcastle **5-1** Brentford; Brighton **0-1** Tottenham. **Serie A:** AC Milan **2-0** Juventus; Sassuolo **1-2** Inter. **Bundesliga:** Borussia Dortmund **2-2** Bayern Munich.

A United Nations human rights expert urged Japan's government to provide evacuees from the Fukushima nuclear plant disaster with more support, including housing, jobs and other needs

Germans are using too much gas to avoid a potential energy emergency this winter, head of national network regulator warned. With reduction in natural gas flows officials have urged citizens to cut back on usage

Fresh US curbs on high-end chip exports to China

Beijing calls the decision a violation of international economic and trade rules

TECH

The United States announced new export controls aimed at restricting China's ability to buy and manufacture high-end chips with military applications, stepping up tensions between the countries.

The moves complicate Beijing's push to further its own semiconductor industry and develop advanced military systems, and come days ahead of a major party congress in China at which President Xi Jinping is expected to secure a historic third term.

The rules, announced by the US Department of Commerce, include export restrictions on some chips used in supercomputing, and toughen requirements on the sale of semiconductor equipment.

The aim is to prevent "sensitive technologies with military applications" from being acquired by China's military, intelligence and security services, said Commerce Department official Alan Estevez in a statement. The rules were announced just days after the Pentagon added 13 more Chinese firms including drone manufacturer DJI and surveillance firm Zhejiang Dahua Technology to a blacklist of Chinese military-linked companies.

Nation is using these capabilities to monitor, track, and surveil their own citizens, and fuel its military modernization

Thea Kendler, Commerce Department official

Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning on Saturday hit back at the chip export restrictions, accusing Washington of attempting to "maliciously block and suppress Chinese businesses".

The US move "violates international economic and trade rules" and would hurt American businesses along with Chinese ones, Mao warned.

The manufacture and export of semiconductors has been a subject of competition between the two countries, as they battle for tech dominance.

In August, US President Joe Biden signed into law a multibillion dollar bill boosting domestic semiconductor and other high-tech manufacturing sectors that US leaders fear risk being dominated by China.

Tens of billions of dollars more were allocated for scientific research and development. China has poured resources into developing supercomputing capabilities and seeks to become a world leader in artificial intelligence by 2030, said another Commerce Department official, Thea Kendler. But the country "is using these capabilities to monitor, track, and surveil their own citizens, and fuel its military modernization," Kendler said, adding that the latest actions protect US national security.

EXFILE • CLIMATE

Egypt replants mangrove 'treasure' to fight climate change impacts

On Egypt's Red Sea coast, fish swim among thousands of newly planted mangroves, part of a programme to boost biodiversity, protect coastlines and fight climate change and its impacts

1,200 acres

FRAGMENTED PATCHES OF MANGROVE

After decades of destruction that saw the mangroves cleared, all that remained were fragmented patches totalling 1,200 acres, the size of only a few hundred football pitches

MANGROVES: A TREASURE

Sayed Khalifa, the head of Egypt's agriculture syndicate who is leading mangrove replanting efforts, calls the unique plants a "treasure" because of their ability to grow in salt water where they face no problems of drought

"It's an entire ecosystem," Khalifa said, knee-deep in the water. "When you plant mangroves, marine life, crustaceans and birds all flock in."

REHABILITATING THE RED SEA

Khalifa's team are growing tens of thousands of seedlings in a nursery, which are then used to rehabilitate six key areas on the Red Sea and Sinai coast, aiming to ***replant some 210 hectares***

But Khalifa dreams of extending the mangroves as far "as possible," pointing past a yacht marina some six kilometres to the south

The **$50,000-a-year** government-backed programme was launched five years ago

NURSERIES OF MARINE LIFE

Between the tentacle-like roots of months-old saplings, small fish and tiny crab larvae dart through the shallows -- making the trees key nurseries of marine life

PUNCH ABOVE THEIR WEIGHT

Mangroves also have a powerful impact in combating climate change. The resilient trees "punch above their weight" absorbing five times more carbon than forests on land, according to the UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

A NATURAL BARRIER

The stands of trees also help filter out water pollution and act as a natural barrier against rising seas and extreme weather, shielding coastal communities from destructive storms

PLANTING MANGROVES: A BETTER INVESTMENT

UNEP calculates that protecting mangroves is a thousand times cheaper than building seawalls over the same distance. Despite their value, mangroves have been annihilated worldwide at rapid speed

80%

MANGROVE LOSSES

Over a third of mangroves globally have been lost globally, researchers estimate, with ***losses up to 80% in some coastlines of the Indian Ocean***

There is little reliable information to indicate how much has been lost, but Kamal Shaltout, a botany professor at Egypt's Tanta University said "there are areas that have been completely destroyed", particularly around the major resort town of Hurghada

THREATS TO THE PLANTS

In Egypt's case, "mass tourism activities and resorts, which cause pollution", as well as boat activity and oil drilling wreaked havoc on mangroves, said Kamal Shaltout, a botany professor at Egypt's Tanta University.

The scale of damage, a 2018 study by Shaltout and other researchers found, "probably far exceeds what could be replaced by any replanting programme for years to come".

Tallest tree ever found in Amazon

ENVIRONMENT

RIO DE JANEIRO: After three years of planning, five expeditions and a two-week trek through dense jungle, scientists have reached the tallest tree ever found in the Amazon rainforest, a towering specimen the size of a 25-storey building. The giant tree, whose top juts out high above the canopy in the Iratapuru River Nature Reserve in northern Brazil, is an angelim vermelho measuring 88.5 metres tall and 9.9 metres around—the biggest ever identified in the Amazon, scientists say. Researchers first spotted the enormous tree in satellite images in 2019 as part of a 3D mapping project.

A team of academics, environmentalists and local guides mounted an expedition to try to reach it later that year. But after a 10-day trek through difficult terrain, exhausted, low on supplies and with a team member falling ill, they had to turn back. The enormous angelim vermelho remained elusive until September 12-25 expedition, when researchers traveled 250 km by boat up rivers with treacherous rapids, plus another 20 km on foot across mountainous jungle terrain to reach it.

WINGS OR TAILS?

A southern right whale (Eubalaena australis) at La Cantera beach near Puerto Madryn, Chubut Province in Argentina | AFP

'Sabotage' disrupts German's rail traffic

TRANSPORT

BERLIN: "Sabotage" targeting communications infrastructure was to blame for major disruption to the German railway network on Saturday, operator Deutsche Bahn said while the government said no motive had yet been identified.

"Cable sabotage" was the cause of the breakdown, which led to a three-hour suspension of train services throughout northern Germany, a spokesman for the company said.

German Transport Minister Volker Wissing said essential cables "were deliberately and intentionally severed" in two places. "It is clear that this was a targeted and deliberate action," he added, saying the motive was not "yet known".

He described the incident as "clearly premeditated".

Specifically, there was damage to the GSM-R, a radio network used for communication on the railway, Der Spiegel reported, quoting security sources. Any damage to the cable would require "certain knowledge" of the rail system, the *Bild daily* said, adding that federal police were investigating.

Traffic was completely interrupted for about three hours because of "a breakdown in the digital radio system for the trains", before being restored, according to Deutsche Bahn.

Services were affected between Berlin and regions in the west and north of the country including Schleswig-Holstein, the cities of Hamburg and Bremen, as well as Lower Saxony and parts of North Rhine-Westphalia. The Berlin-Amsterdam route was also suspended, and thousands of travellers were stranded at stations across the affected regions.

Cancellations and delays were still expected on Saturday despite the restoration of rail services, Deutsche Bahn warned. The attack comes just over two weeks after sabotage attacks on the Nord Stream 1 and 2 gas pipelines linking Russia and Germany. The German government has also stepped up protection of its critical infrastructure.

Deutsche Bahn is regularly criticised for delays on its services. At the beginning of September, the company said it would carry out massive improvement works, including replacing 137,000 concrete sleepers.

FACT OF THE MATTER

Constant decline in Grey Whale

MARINE: US researchers say the number of gray whales off western North America has continued to fall over the last two years, a decline that resembles previous population swings over the past several decades. According to an assessment by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries, the most recent count put the population at 16,650 whales—down 38% from its peak in 2015-16. The whales also produced the fewest calves since scientists began counting the births in 1994. An increase in the number of whales washing up on West Coast beaches prompted the fisheries agency to declare an "unusual mortality event" in 2019.

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SECRETS BENEATH THE PLASTER

Mexican church pre-Hispanic paintings suggest negotiation

HISTORY

TEPOZTLAN: Indigenous symbols found painted next to Roman Catholic motifs at a 1550s-era convent near Mexico City suggest Spanish priests negotiated with Indigenous leaders in the first years after the conquest, experts said Friday.

The popular belief has long been that the Spanish simply imposed their religion and government system after the 1521 defeat of the Aztec empire.

But the few Spanish priests sent to Mexico were faced with the monumental task of converting hundreds of thousands of Indigenous people in a short period of time. That may have forced them to take Indigenous preferences into account in order to complete their task.

This week, the National Institute of Anthropology and History announced that Indigenous symbols like a feather headdress, an axe and a shield have been found under layers of lime plaster at open-air chapels in a convent in the town of Tepoztlan, just south of Mexico City.

Restoration experts were cleaning and stabilizing large, one metre diameter painted red circles on the walls. Those kind of circles can be seen elsewhere

in the convent, filled with Christian imagery.

But in the open-air chapels they were paired with the same circles bearing Indigenous motifs. The meaning of the pre-Hispanic symbols are still being studied and may refer to Tepoztécatl or some other Indigenous god.

Historical restorer Frida Mateos González, who works for the institute, said it was significant that the paintings found on two walls of the outdoor chapels showed the letter "M" representing the Virgin Mary.

On the walls opposite, at the same size and the same height, was a circle with the pre-Hispanic symbols.

"Something is going on there that suggests a negotiation at the same level, 'What have we agreed on?'" Mateos González said. "It speak of a space where negotiations and agreements were made."

Indigenous peoples in Mexico were accustomed to holding religious ceremonies in the open air, not in enclosed spaces like churches. To attract them, the priests built open-air chapels: a small arched vestibule for officiating Mass facing a large open patio surrounded by the four walls of the church patio.

The paintings found this week were in three smaller structures known as "Posing Chapels," built in the four corners of the open patio.